

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
18 July 2002 (18.07.2002)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 02/054856 A1

(51) International Patent Classification⁷: **A01H 1/06**,
A61K 31/7076, 31/7088, C12N 1/00, 5/00, C12Q 1/68

(21) International Application Number: PCT/US01/00934

(22) International Filing Date: 15 January 2001 (15.01.2001)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(71) Applicant (*for all designated States except US*): **MORPHOTEK INC.** [US/US]; Suite 516, 3624 Market Street, Philadelphia, PA 19104 (US).

(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants (*for US only*): **NICOLAIDES**, Nicholas, C. [US/US]; 4 Cider Mill Court, Boothwyn, PA 19061 (US). **GRASSO**, Luigi [US/US]; Apartment #816, 834 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia, PA 19107 (US). **SASS**, Philip, M. [US/US]; 1903 Blackhawk Circle, Audubon, PA 19403 (US).

(74) Agents: **CALDWELL, John, W.** et al.; Woodcock Washburn Kurtz MacKiewicz & Norris LLP, 46th floor, One Liberty Place, Philadelphia, PA 19103 (US).

(81) Designated States (*national*): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, YU, ZA, ZW.

(84) Designated States (*regional*): ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Published:

— with international search report

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: CHEMICAL INHIBITORS OF MISMATCH REPAIR

(57) Abstract: Dominant negative alleles of human mismatch repair genes can be used to generate hypermutable cells and organisms. By introducing these genes into cells and transgenic animals, new cell lines and animal varieties with novel and useful properties can be prepared more efficiently than by relying on the natural rate of mutation. Methods of generating mutations in genes of interest and of making various cells mismatch repair defective through the use of chemicals to block mismatch repair *in vivo* are disclosed.

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CHEMICAL INHIBITORS OF MISMATCH REPAIR

TECHNICAL FIELD OF THE INVENTION

The invention is related to the area of mutagenesis. In particular it is related to the
5 field of blocking specific DNA repair processes.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Mismatch repair (MMR) is a conserved DNA repair process that is involved in post-replicative repair of mutated DNA sequences that occurs after genome replication.

10 The process involves a group of gene products, including the *mutS* homologs *GTBP*, *hMSH2*, and *hMSH3* and the *mutL* homologs *hMLH1*, *hPMS1*, and *hPMS2* (Bronner, C.E. *et al.* (1994) *Nature* 368:258-261; Papadopoulos, N. *et al.* (1994) *Science* 263:1625-1629; Leach, F.S. *et al.* (1993) *Cell* 75:1215-1225; Nicolaides, N.C. *et al.* (1994) *Nature* 371:75-80) that work in concert to correct mispaired mono-, di-, and tri-nucleotides, point
15 mutations, and to monitor for correct homologous recombination. Germline mutations in any of the genes involved in this process results in global point mutations, and instability of mono, di and tri-nucleotide repeats (a feature referred to as microsatellite instability (MI)), throughout the genome of the host cell. In man, genetic defects in MMR results in the predisposition to hereditary nonpolyposis colon cancer, a disease in which tumors
20 retain a diploid genome but have widespread MI (Bronner, C.E. *et al.* (1994) *Nature* 368:258-261; Papadopoulos, N. *et al.* (1994) *Science* 263:1625-1629; Leach, F.S. *et al.* (1993) *Cell* 75:1215-1225; Nicolaides, N.C. *et al.* (1994) *Nature* 371:75-80; Harfe B.D., and S. Jinks-Robertson (2000) *An. Rev. Genet.* 34:359-399; Modrich, P. (1994) *Science* 266:1959-1960). Though the mutator defect that arises from MMR deficiency can affect
25 any DNA sequence, microsatellite sequences are particularly sensitive to MMR abnormalities (Peinado, M.A. *et al.* (1992) *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA* 89:10065-10069). Microsatellite instability is therefore a useful indicator of defective MMR. In addition to its occurrence in virtually all tumors arising in HNPCC patients, MI is found in a small fraction of sporadic tumors with distinctive molecular and phenotypic properties that is
30 due to defective MMR (Perucho, M. (1996) *Biol. Chem.* 377:675-684).

MMR deficiency leads to a wide spectrum of mutations (point mutations, insertions, deletions, recombination, etc.) that can occur throughout the genome of a host

cell. This effect has been found to occur across a diverse array of organisms ranging from but not limited to unicellular microbes, such as bacteria and yeast, to more complex organisms such as *Drosophila* and mammals, including mice and humans (Harfe B.D., and S. Jinks-Robertson (2000) *An. Rev. Genet.* 34:359-399; Modrich, P. (1994) *Science* 5 266:1959-1960). The ability to block MMR in a normal host cell or organism can result in the generation of genetically altered offspring or sibling cells that have desirable output traits for applications such as but not limited to agriculture, pharmaceutical, chemical manufacturing and specialty goods. A chemical method that can block the MMR process is beneficial for generating genetically altered hosts with commercially valuable output 10 traits. A chemical strategy for blocking MMR *in vivo* offers a great advantage over a recombinant approach for producing genetically altered host organisms. One advantage is that a chemical approach bypasses the need for introducing foreign DNA into a host, resulting in a rapid approach for inactivating MMR and generating genetically diverse offspring or sib cells. Moreover, a chemical process is highly regulated in that once a host 15 organism with a desired output trait is generated, the chemical is removed from the host and its MMR process would be restored, thus fixing the genetic alteration in subsequent generations. The invention described herein is directed to the discovery of small molecules that are capable of blocking MMR, thus resulting in host organisms with MI, a hallmark of MMR deficiency (Peinado, M.A. *et al.* (1992) *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA* 20 89:10065-10069; Perucho, M. (1996) *Biol. Chem.* 377:675-684; Wheeler, J.M. *et al.* (2000) *J. Med. Genet.* 37:588-592; Hoang, J.M. *et al.* (1997) *Cancer Res.* 57:300-303). Moreover, host organisms exhibiting MI are then selected for to identify subtypes with new output traits, such as but not limited to mutant nucleic acid molecules, polypeptides, biochemicals, physical appearance at the microscopic and/or macroscopic level, or 25 phenotypic alterations in a whole organism. In addition, the ability to develop MMR defective host cells by a chemical agent provides a valuable method for creating genetically altered cell hosts for product development. The invention described herein is directed to the creation of genetically altered cell hosts via the blockade of MMR using chemical agents *in vivo*.

30 The advantages of the present invention are further described in the examples and figures described within this document.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The invention provides methods for rendering cells hypermutable by blocking MMR activity with chemical agents.

5 The invention also provides genetically altered cell lines which have mutations introduced through interruption of mismatch repair.

The invention further provides methods to produce an enhanced rate of genetic hypermutation in a cell.

10 The invention encompasses methods of mutating a gene of interest in a cell, methods of creating cells with new phenotypes, and methods of creating cells with new phenotypes and a stable genome.

The invention also provides methods of creating genetically altered whole organisms and methods of creating whole organisms with new phenotypes.

15 These and other objects of the invention are provided by one or more of the embodiments described below.

In one embodiment of the invention, a method for screening chemical compounds that block mismatch repair (MMR) is provided. An MMR-sensitive reporter gene containing an out-of-frame polynucleotide repeat in its coding region is introduced into an MMR proficient cell. The cell is grown in the presence of chemicals. Chemicals that alter
20 the genetic structure of the polynucleotide repeat yield a biologically active reporter gene product. Chemicals that disrupt the polynucleotide repeat are identified as MMR blocking agents.

In another embodiment of the invention, an isolated MMR blocking chemical is provided. The chemical can block MMR of a host cell, yielding a cell that exhibits an
25 enhanced rate of hypermutation.

In another embodiment of the invention, a method is provided for introducing a mutation into a gene of interest. A chemical that blocks mismatch repair is added to the culture of a cell line. The cells become hypermutable as a result of the introduction of the chemical. The cell further comprises a gene of interest. The cell is cultured and tested to
30 determine whether the gene of interest harbors a mutation.

In another embodiment of the invention, a method is provided for producing new phenotypes of a cell. A chemical that blocks mismatch repair is added to a cell culture.

The cell becomes hypermutable as a result of the introduction of the chemical. The cell is cultured and tested for the expression of new phenotypes.

In another embodiment of the invention, a method is provided for restoring genetic stability in a cell in which mismatch repair is blocked via a chemical agent. The chemical
5 is removed from the cell culture and the cell restores its genetic stability.

In another embodiment of the invention, a method is provided for restoring genetic stability in a cell with blocked mismatch repair and a newly selected phenotype. The chemical agent is removed from the cell culture and the cell restores its genetic stability and the new phenotype is stable.

10 In another embodiment of the invention, a chemical method for blocking MMR in plants is provided. The plant is grown in the presence of a chemical agent. The plant is grown and exhibits an enhanced rate of hypermutation.

In another embodiment of the invention, a method for screening chemical inhibitors of MMR in plants *in vivo* is provided. MMR-sensitive plant expression vectors
15 are engineered. The reporter vectors are introduced into plant hosts. The plant is grown in the presence of a chemical agent. The plant is monitored for altered reporter gene function.

In another embodiment of the invention, a method is provided for introducing a mutation into a gene of interest in a plant. A chemical that blocks mismatch repair is
20 added to a plant. The plant becomes hypermutable as a result of the introduction of the chemical. The plant further comprises a gene of interest. The plant is grown. The plant is tested to determine whether the gene of interest harbors a mutation.

In another embodiment of the invention, a method is provided for producing new phenotypes of a plant. A chemical that blocks mismatch repair is added to a plant. The
25 plant becomes hypermutable as a result of the introduction of the chemical. The plant is grown and tested for the expression of new phenotypes.

In another embodiment of the invention, a method is provided for restoring genetic stability in a plant in which mismatch repair is blocked via a chemical agent. The chemical is removed from the plant culture and the plant restores its genetic stability.

30 In another embodiment of the invention, a method is provided for restoring genetic stability in a plant with blocked mismatch repair and a newly selected phenotype. The

chemical agent is removed from the plant culture and the plant restores its genetic stability and the new phenotype is stable.

These and other embodiments of the invention provide the art with methods that can generate enhanced mutability in microbes, organisms of the protista class, insect cells, mammalian cells, plants, and animals as well as providing cells, plants and animals harboring potentially useful mutations.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

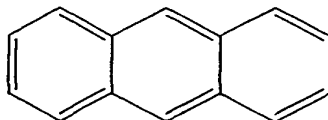
- Figure 1** shows diagrams of mismatch repair (MMR) sensitive reporter genes.
- 10 **Figure 2** shows a screening method for identifying MMR blocking chemicals.
- Figure 3** shows identification of a small chemical that blocks MMR and genetically alters the pCAR-OF vector *in vivo*.
- Figure 4** shows shifting of endogenous microsatellites in human cells induced by a chemical inhibitor of MMR.
- 15 **Figure 5** shows sequence analysis of microsatellites from cells treated with chemical inhibitors of MMR with altered repeats.
- Figure 6** shows generation of host organisms with new phenotypes using a chemical blocker of MMR.
- Figure 7** shows a schematic diagram of MMR-sensitive reporter gene for plants.
- 20 **Figure 8** shows derivatives of lead compounds and thereof that are inhibitors of MMR *in vivo*.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

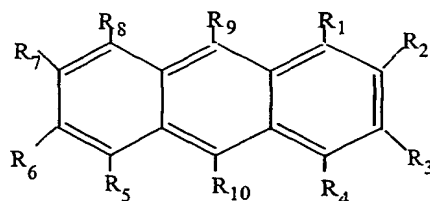
Various definitions are provided herein. Most words and terms have the meaning that would be attributed to those words by one skilled in the art. Words or terms specifically defined herein have the meaning provided in the context of the present invention as a whole and as are typically understood by those skilled in the art. Any conflict between an art-understood definition of a word or term and a definition of the word or term as specifically taught herein shall be resolved in favor of the latter. Headings used herein are for convenience and are not to be construed as limiting.

As used herein the term "anthracene" refers to the compound anthracene. However, when referred to in the general sense, such as "anthracenes," "an anthracene" or "the

anthracene," such terms denote any compound that contains the fused triphenyl core structure of anthracene, i.e.,



regardless of extent of substitution.



- 5 In certain preferred embodiments of the invention, the anthracene has the formula:
 wherein R_1 - R_{10} are independently hydrogen, hydroxyl, amino, alkyl, substituted alkyl, alkenyl, substituted alkenyl, alkynyl, substituted alkynyl, O-alkyl, S-alkyl, N-alkyl, O-alkenyl, S-alkenyl, N-alkenyl, O-alkynyl, S-alkynyl, N-alkynyl, aryl, substituted aryl, aryloxy, substituted aryloxy, heteroaryl, substituted heteroaryl, aralkyloxy, arylalkyl, alkylaryl, alkylaryloxy,
 10 arylsulfonyl, alkylsulfonyl, alkoxycarbonyl, aryloxycarbonyl, guanidino, carboxy, an alcohol, an amino acid, sulfonate, alkyl sulfonate, CN, NO_2 , an aldehyde group, an ester, an ether, a crown ether, a ketone, an organosulfur compound, an organometallic group, a carboxylic acid, an organosilicon or a carbohydrate that optionally contains one or more alkylated hydroxyl groups;
 15 wherein said heteroalkyl, heteroaryl, and substituted heteroaryl contain at least one heteroatom that is oxygen, sulfur, a metal atom, phosphorus, silicon or nitrogen; and
 wherein said substituents of said substituted alkyl, substituted alkenyl, substituted alkynyl, substituted aryl, and substituted heteroaryl are halogen, CN, NO_2 , lower alkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, aralkyl, aralkyloxy, guanidino, alkoxycarbonyl, alkoxy, hydroxy, carboxy and amino;
 20 and wherein said amino groups optionally substituted with an acyl group, or 1 to 3 aryl or lower alkyl groups;
 or wherein any two of R_1 - R_{10} can together form a polyether;
 or wherein any two of R_1 - R_{10} can, together with the intervening carbon atoms of the anthracene core, form a crown ether.

As used herein, "alkyl" refers to a hydrocarbon containing from 1 to about 20 carbon atoms. Alkyl groups may be straight, branched, cyclic, or combinations thereof. Alkyl groups thus include, by way of illustration only, methyl, ethyl, propyl, isopropyl, butyl, isobutyl, cyclopentyl, cyclopentylmethyl, cyclohexyl, cyclohexylmethyl, and the like. Also included within the definition of "alkyl" are fused and/or polycyclic aliphatic cyclic ring systems such as, for example, adamantane. As used herein the term "alkenyl" denotes an alkyl group having at least one carbon-carbon double bond. As used herein the term "alkynyl" denotes an alkyl group having at least one carbon-carbon triple bond.

In some preferred embodiments, the alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, aryl, aryloxy, and heteroaryl substituent groups described above may bear one or more further substituent groups; that is, they may be "substituted". In some preferred embodiments these substituent groups can include halogens (for example fluorine, chlorine, bromine and iodine), CN, NO₂, lower alkyl groups, aryl groups, heteroaryl groups, aralkyl groups, aralkyloxy groups, guanidino, alkoxycarbonyl, alkoxy, hydroxy, carboxy and amino groups. In addition, the alkyl and aryl portions of aralkyloxy, arylalkyl, arylsulfonyl, alkylsulfonyl, alkoxycarbonyl, and aryloxy carbonyl groups also can bear such substituent groups. Thus, by way of example only, substituted alkyl groups include, for example, alkyl groups fluoro-, chloro-, bromo- and iodoalkyl groups, aminoalkyl groups, and hydroxyalkyl groups, such as hydroxymethyl, hydroxyethyl, hydroxypropyl, hydroxybutyl, and the like. In some preferred embodiments such hydroxyalkyl groups contain from 1 to about 20 carbons.

As used herein the term "aryl" means a group having 5 to about 20 carbon atoms and which contains at least one aromatic ring, such as phenyl, biphenyl and naphthyl. Preferred aryl groups include unsubstituted or substituted phenyl and naphthyl groups. The term "aryloxy" denotes an aryl group that is bound through an oxygen atom, for example a phenoxy group.

In general, the prefix "hetero" denotes the presence of at least one hetero (i.e., non-carbon) atom, which is in some preferred embodiments independently one to three O, N, S, P, Si or metal atoms. Thus, the term "heteroaryl" denotes an aryl group in which one or more ring carbon atom is replaced by such a heteroatom. Preferred heteroaryl groups include pyridyl, pyrimidyl, pyrrolyl, furyl, thienyl, and imidazolyl groups.

The term "aralkyl" (or "arylalkyl") is intended to denote a group having from 6 to 15 carbons, consisting of an alkyl group that bears an aryl group. Examples of aralkyl groups

In general, the prefix "hetero" denotes the presence of at least one hetero (i.e., non-carbon) atom, which is in some preferred embodiments independently one to three O, N, S, P, Si or metal atoms. Thus, the term "heteroaryl" denotes an aryl group in which one or more ring carbon atom is replaced by such a heteroatom. Preferred heteroaryl groups include
5 pyridyl, pyrimidyl, pyrrolyl, furyl, thienyl, and imidazolyl groups.

The term "aralkyl" (or "arylalkyl") is intended to denote a group having from 6 to 15 carbons, consisting of an alkyl group that bears an aryl group. Examples of aralkyl groups include benzyl, phenethyl, benzhydryl and naphthylmethyl groups.

The term "alkylaryl" (or "alkaryl") is intended to denote a group having from 6 to 15
10 carbons, consisting of an aryl group that bears an alkyl group. Examples of aralkyl groups include methylphenyl, ethylphenyl and methylnaphthyl groups.

The term "arylsulfonyl" denotes an aryl group attached through a sulfonyl group, for example phenylsulfonyl. The term "alkylsulfonyl" denotes an alkyl group attached through a sulfonyl group, for example methylsulfonyl.

15 The term "alkoxycarbonyl" denotes a group of formula $-C(=O)-O-R$ where R is alkyl, alkenyl, or alkynyl, where the alkyl, alkenyl, or alkynyl portions thereof can be optionally substituted as described herein.

The term "aryloxycarbonyl" denotes a group of formula $-C(=O)-O-R$ where R is aryl, where the aryl portion thereof can be optionally substituted as described herein.

20 The terms "arylalkyloxy" or "aralkyloxy" are equivalent, and denote a group of formula $-O-R'-R''$, where R' is R is alkyl, alkenyl, or alkynyl which can be optionally substituted as described herein, and wherein R'' denotes a aryl or substituted aryl group.

The terms "alkylaryloxy" or "alkaryloxy" are equivalent, and denote a group of formula $-O-R'-R''$, where R' is an aryl or substituted aryl group, and R'' is alkyl, alkenyl, or
25 alkynyl which can be optionally substituted as described herein.

As used herein, the term "aldehyde group" denotes a group that bears a moiety of formula $-C(=O)-H$. The term "ketone" denotes a moiety containing a group of formula $-R-C(=O)-R=$, where R and R= are independently alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, aryl, heteroaryl, aralkyl, or alkaryl, each of which may be substituted as described herein.

30 As used herein, the term "ester" denotes a moiety having a group of formula $-R-C(=O)-O-R=$ or $-R-O-C(=O)-R=$ where R and R= are independently alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, aryl, heteroaryl, aralkyl, or alkaryl, each of which may be substituted as described herein.

The term "ether" denotes a moiety having a group of formula -R-O-R= or where R and R= are independently alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, aryl, heteroaryl, aralkyl, or alkaryl, each of which may be substituted as described herein.

5 The term "crown ether" has its usual meaning of a cyclic ether containing several oxygen atoms. As used herein the term "organosulfur compound" denotes aliphatic or aromatic sulfur containing compounds, for example thiols and disulfides. The term "organometallic group" denotes an organic molecule containing at least one metal atom.

The term "organosilicon compound" denotes aliphatic or aromatic silicon containing compounds, for example alkyl and aryl silanes.

10 The term "carboxylic acid" denotes a moiety having a carboxyl group, other than an amino acid.

As used herein, the term "amino acid" denotes a molecule containing both an amino group and a carboxyl group. In some preferred embodiments, the amino acids are α -, β -, γ - or δ -amino acids, including their stereoisomers and racemates. As used herein the term "L-amino acid" denotes an α -amino acid having the L configuration around the α -carbon, that is, a carboxylic acid of general formula $\text{CH}(\text{COOH})(\text{NH}_2)$ -(side chain), having the L-configuration. The term "D-amino acid" similarly denotes a carboxylic acid of general formula $\text{CH}(\text{COOH})(\text{NH}_2)$ -(side chain), having the D-configuration around the α -carbon. Side chains of L-amino acids include naturally occurring and non-naturally occurring moieties.

15 Non-naturally occurring (i.e., unnatural) amino acid side chains are moieties that are used in place of naturally occurring amino acid side chains in, for example, amino acid analogs. See, for example, Lehninger, *Biochemistry*, Second Edition, Worth Publishers, Inc, 1975, pages 72-77, incorporated herein by reference. Amino acid substituents may be attached through their carbonyl groups through the oxygen or carbonyl carbon thereof, or through their amino groups, or through functionalities residing on their side chain portions.

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As used herein "polynucleotide" refers to a nucleic acid molecule and includes genomic DNA cDNA, RNA, mRNA and the like.

As used herein "antisense oligonucleotide" refers to a nucleic acid molecule that is complementary to at least a portion of a target nucleotide sequence of interest and specifically hybridizes to the target nucleotide sequence under physiological conditions.

30

As used herein "inhibitor of mismatch repair" refers to an agent that interferes with at least one function of the mismatch repair system of a cell and thereby renders the cell more

susceptible to mutation.

As used herein “hypermutable” refers to a state in which a cell *in vitro* or *in vivo* is made more susceptible to mutation through a loss or impairment of the mismatch repair system.

5 As used herein “agents,” “chemicals,” and “inhibitors” when used in connection with inhibition of MMR refers to chemicals, oligonucleotides, analogs of natural substrates, and the like that interfere with normal function of MMR.

 Methods for developing hypermutable cells and whole organisms have been discovered by taking advantage of the conserved mismatch repair (MMR) process of a
10 host. Dominant negative alleles of MMR genes, when introduced into cells or transgenic animals, increase the rate of spontaneous mutations by reducing the effectiveness of DNA repair and thereby render the cells or animals hypermutable. Hypermutable microbes, protozoans, insects, mammalian cells, plants or whole animals can then be utilized to develop new mutations in a gene of interest. It has been discovered that chemicals that
15 block MMR, and thereby render cells hypermutable, is an efficient way to introduce mutations in cells and genes of interest. In addition to destabilizing the genome of cells exposed to chemicals that inhibit MMR activity may be done transiently, allowing cells to become hypermutable, and removing the chemical exposure after the desired effect (e.g., a mutation in a gene of interest) is achieved. The chemicals that inhibit MMR activity that
20 are suitable for use in the invention include, but are not limited to, anthracene derivatives, nonhydrolyzable ATP analogs, ATPase inhibitors, antisense oligonucleotides that specifically anneal to polynucleotides encoding mismatch repair proteins, DNA polymerase inhibitors, and exonuclease inhibitors. These chemicals can enhance the rate of mutation due to inactivation of MMR yielding clones or subtypes with altered
25 biochemical properties. Methods for identifying chemical compounds that inhibit MMR *in vivo* are also described herein.

 The process of MMR, also called mismatch proofreading, is carried out by a group of protein complexes in cells ranging from bacteria to man (Harfe B.D., and S. Jinks-Robertson (2000) *An. Rev. Genet.* 34:359-399; Modrich, P. (1994) *Science*
30 266:1959-1960). An MMR gene is a gene that encodes for one of the proteins of such a mismatch repair complex. Although not wanting to be bound by any particular theory of mechanism of action, an MMR complex is believed to detect distortions of the DNA helix

resulting from non-complementary pairing of nucleotide bases. The non-complementary base on the newer DNA strand is excised, and the excised base is replaced with the appropriate base, which is complementary to the older DNA strand. In this way, cells eliminate many mutations that occur as a result of mistakes in DNA replication.

5 Dominant negative alleles cause an MMR defective phenotype even in the presence of a wild-type allele in the same cell. An example of a dominant negative allele of an MMR gene is the human gene *hPMS2-134* (SEQ ID NO:25), which carries a truncating mutation at codon 134 (Nicolaidis, N.C. *et al.* (1998) *Mol. Cell. Biol.* 18:1635-1641). The mutation causes the product of this gene to abnormally terminate at the position of the
10 134th amino acid, resulting in a shortened polypeptide containing the N-terminal 133 amino acids (SEQ ID NO:24). Such a mutation causes an increase in the rate of mutations, which accumulate in cells after DNA replication. Expression of a dominant negative allele of a mismatch repair gene results in impairment of mismatch repair activity, even in the presence of the wild-type allele.

15 The MMR process has been shown to be blocked by the use of nonhydrolyzable forms of ATP (Galio, L. *et al.* (1999) *Nucl. Acids Res.* 27:2325-2331; Allen, D.J. *et al.* (1997) *EMBO J.* 16:4467-4476; Bjornson, K.P. *et al.* (2000) *Biochem.* 39:3176-3183). However, it has not been demonstrated that chemicals can block MMR activity in cells. Such chemicals can be identified by screening cells for defective MMR activity. Cells
20 from bacteria, yeast, fungi, insects, plants, animals, and humans can be screened for defective mismatch repair. Genomic DNA, cDNA, or mRNA from any cell can be analyzed for variations from the wild type sequences in cells or organisms grown in the presence of MMR blocking compounds. Various techniques of screening can be used. The suitability of such screening assays, whether natural or artificial, for use in identifying
25 hypermutable cells, insects, fungi, plants or animals can be evaluated by testing the mismatch repair activity caused by a compound or a mixture of compounds, to determine if it is an MMR inhibitor.

 A cell, a microbe, or a whole organism such as an insect, fungus, plant or animal in which a chemical inhibitor of mismatch repair has been treated will become hypermutable.
30 This means that the spontaneous mutation rate of such cells or whole organism is elevated compared to cells or animals without such treatment. The degree of elevation of the spontaneous mutation rate can be at least 2-fold, 5-fold, 10-fold, 20-fold, 50-fold, 100-

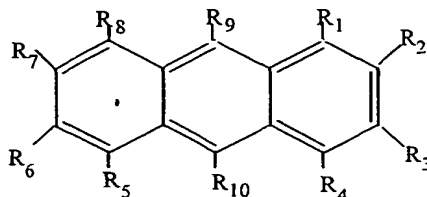
fold, 200-fold, 500-fold, or 1000-fold that of the normal cell or animal. The use of chemical mutagens such as, but limited to, N-methyl-N'-nitro-N-nitrosoguanidine (MNNG), methane sulfonate, dimethyl sulfonate, O6-methyl benzadine, ethyl methanesulfonate (EMS), methylnitrosourea (MNU), ethylnitrosourea (ENU), *etc.* can be used in MMR defective cells or whole organisms to increase the rates an additional 10 to 100 fold that of the MMR deficiency itself.

According to one aspect of the invention, a screening assay for identifying chemical inhibitors of MMR is developed and employed. A chemical compound can be in any form or class ranging from but not limited to amino acid, steroidal, aromatic, or lipid precursors. The chemical compound can be naturally occurring or made in the laboratory. The screening assay can be natural such as looking for altered endogenous repeats within an host organism's genome (as demonstrated in Figs. 4 and 5), or made in the laboratory using an MMR-sensitive reporter gene as demonstrated in Figs. 1-3).

The chemical compound can be introduced into the cell by supplementing the growth medium, or by intracellular delivery such as but not limited to using microinjection or carrier compounds.

According to another aspect of the invention, a chemical compound from the anthracene class can be exposed to MMR proficient cells or whole organism hosts, the host is grown and screened for subtypes containing genetically altered genes with new biochemical features.

The anthracene compounds that are suitable for use in the invention include, but are not limited to anthracenes having the formula:



wherein R₁-R₁₀ are independently hydrogen, hydroxyl, amino, alkyl, substituted alkyl, alkenyl, substituted alkenyl, alkynyl, substituted alkynyl, O-alkyl, S-alkyl, N-alkyl, O-alkenyl, S-alkenyl, N-alkenyl, O-alkynyl, S-alkynyl, N-alkynyl, aryl, substituted aryl, aryloxy, substituted aryloxy, heteroaryl, substituted heteroaryl, aralkyloxy, arylalkyl, alkylaryl, alkylaryloxy, arylsulfonyl, alkylsulfonyl, alkoxy carbonyl, aryloxy carbonyl, guanidino, carboxy, an alcohol,

an amino acid, sulfonate, alkyl sulfonate, CN, NO₂, an aldehyde group, an ester, an ether, a crown ether, a ketone, an organosulfur compound, an organometallic group, a carboxylic acid, an organosilicon or a carbohydrate that optionally contains one or more alkylated hydroxyl groups;

5 wherein said heteroalkyl, heteroaryl, and substituted heteroaryl contain at least one heteroatom that is oxygen, sulfur, a metal atom, phosphorus, silicon or nitrogen; and

 wherein said substituents of said substituted alkyl, substituted alkenyl, substituted alkynyl,

 substituted aryl, and substituted heteroaryl are halogen, CN, NO₂, lower alkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, 10 aralkyl, aralkyloxy, guanidino, alkoxycarbonyl, alkoxy, hydroxy, carboxy and amino;

 and wherein said amino groups optionally substituted with an acyl group, or 1 to 3 aryl or lower alkyl groups;

 or wherein any two of R₁-R₁₀ can together form a polyether;

 or wherein any two of R₁-R₁₀ can, together with the intervening carbon atoms of the 15 anthracene core, form a crown ether.

 The method of the invention also encompasses inhibiting MMR with an anthracene of the above formula wherein R₅ and R₆ are hydrogen, and the remaining substituents are as described above.

 The some embodiments, in the anthracene compound R₁-R₁₀ are independently 20 hydrogen, hydroxyl, alkyl, aryl, arylalkyl, or hydroxyalkyl. In other embodiments, R₁-R₁₀ are independently hydrogen, hydroxyl, methyl, ethyl, propyl, isopropyl, butyl, isobutyl, phenyl, tolyl, hydroxymethyl, hydroxypropyl, or hydroxybutyl.

 In specific embodiments of the invention the anthracenes include, but are not limited to 1,2-dimethylantracene, 9,10-dimethyl anthracene, 7,8-dimethylantracene, 25 9,10-diphenylantracene, 9,10-dihydroxymethylantracene, 9-hydroxymethyl-10-methylantracene, dimethylantracene-1,2-diol, 9-hydroxymethyl-10-methylantracene-1,2-diol, 9-hydroxymethyl-10-methylantracene-3,4-diol, 9, 10-di-m-tolyanthracene, and the like.

 The chiral position of the side chains of the anthracenes is not particularly limited 30 and may be any chiral position and any chiral analog. The anthracenes may also comprise a stereoisomeric forms of the anthracenes and includes any isomeric analog.

Examples of hosts are but not limited to cells or whole organisms from human, primate, mammal, rodent, plant, fish, reptiles, amphibians, insects, fungi, yeast or microbes of prokaryotic origin.

Yet another aspect of the invention is the use of ATP analogs capable of blocking
5 ATPase activity required for MMR. MMR reporter cells are screened with ATP compound libraries to identify those compounds capable of blocking MMR *in vivo*. Examples of ATP analogs that are useful in blocking MMR activity include, but are not limited to, nonhydrolyzable forms of ATP such as AMP-PNP and ATP[gamma]S block the MMR activity (Galio, L. *et al.* (1999) *Nucl. Acids Res.* 27:2325-2331; Allen, D.J. *et al.*
10 (1997) *EMBO J.* 16:4467-4476; Bjornson K.P. *et al.* (2000) *Biochem.* 39:3176-3183).

Yet another aspect of the invention is the use of nuclease inhibitors that are able to block the exonuclease activity of the MMR biochemical pathway. MMR reporter cells are screened with nuclease inhibitor compound libraries to identify compounds capable of blocking MMR *in vivo*. Examples of nuclease inhibitors that are useful in blocking MMR
15 activity include, but are not limited to analogs of N-Ethylmaleimide, an endonuclease inhibitor (Huang, Y.C., *et.al.* (1995) *Arch. Biochem. Biophys.* 316:485), heterodimeric adenine-chain-acridine compounds, exonuclease III inhibitors (Belmont P, *et.al.*, *Bioorg Med Chem Lett* (2000) 10:293-295), as well as antibiotic compounds such as Heliquinomycin, which have helicase inhibitory activity (Chino, M, *et.al.* *J. Antibiot.*
20 (Tokyo) (1998) 51:480-486).

Another aspect of the invention is the use of DNA polymerase inhibitors that are able to block the polymerization required for mismatch-mediated repair. MMR reporter cells are screened with DNA polymerase inhibitor compound libraries to identify those compounds capable of blocking MMR *in vivo*. Examples of DNA polymerase inhibitors
25 that are useful in blocking MMR activity include, but are not limited to, analogs of actinomycin D (Martin, S.J., *et.al.* (1990) *J. Immunol.* 145:1859), Aphidicolin (Kuwakado, K. *et.al.* (1993) *Biochem. Pharmacol.* 46:1909) 1-(2'-Deoxy-2'-fluoro-beta-L-arabinofuranosyl)-5-methyluracil (L-FMAU) (Kukhanova M, *et.al.*, *Biochem Pharmacol* (1998) 55:1181-1187), and 2',3'-dideoxyribonucleoside 5'-triphosphates (ddNTPs) (Ono,
30 K., *et.al.*, *Biomed Pharmacother* (1984) 38:382-389).

In yet another aspect of the invention, antisense oligonucleotides are administered to cells to disrupt at least one function of the mismatch repair process. The antisense

polynucleotides hybridize to MMR polynucleotides. Both full-length and antisense polynucleotide fragments are suitable for use. "Antisense polynucleotide fragments" of the invention include, but are not limited to polynucleotides that specifically hybridize to an MMR encoding RNA (as determined by sequence comparison of nucleotides encoding the

5 MMR to nucleotides encoding other known molecules). Identification of sequences that are substantially unique to MMR-encoding polynucleotides can be ascertained by analysis of any publicly available sequence database and/or with any commercially available sequence comparison programs. Antisense molecules may be generated by any means including, but not limited to chemical synthesis, expression in an *in vitro* transcription

10 reaction, through expression in a transformed cell comprising a vector that may be transcribed to produce antisense molecules, through restriction digestion and isolation, through the polymerase chain reaction, and the like.

Antisense oligonucleotides, or fragments thereof may include the nucleotide sequences set forth in SEQ ID NOs:15, 17, 19, 21, 23, 25, 27, and 29 or sequences

15 complementary or homologous thereto, for example. Those of skill in the art recognize that the invention may be predicted using any MMR gene. Specifically, antisense nucleic acid molecules comprise a sequence complementary to at least about 10, 15, 25, 50, 100, 250 or 500 nucleotides or an entire MMR encoding sequence. Preferably, the antisense oligonucleotides comprise a sequence complementary to about 15 consecutive nucleotides

20 of the coding strand of the MMR encoding sequence.

In one embodiment, an antisense nucleic acid molecule is antisense to a "coding region" of the coding strand of a nucleotide sequence encoding an MMR protein. The coding strand may also include regulatory regions of the MMR sequence. The term "coding region" refers to the region of the nucleotide sequence comprising codons which

25 are translated into amino acid residues (e.g., the protein coding region of human PMS2 corresponds to the coding region SEQ ID NO:17). In another embodiment, the antisense nucleic acid molecule is antisense to a "noncoding region" of the coding strand of a nucleotide sequence encoding an MMR protein. The term "noncoding region" refers to 5' and 3' sequences which flank the coding region that are not translated into amino acids

30 (i.e., also referred to as 5' and 3' untranslated regions (UTR)).

Preferably, antisense oligonucleotides are directed to regulatory regions of a nucleotide sequence encoding an MMR protein, or mRNA corresponding thereto,

including, but not limited to, the initiation codon, TATA box, enhancer sequences, and the like. Given the coding strand sequences provided herein, antisense nucleic acids of the invention can be designed according to the rules of Watson and Crick or Hoogsteen base pairing. The antisense nucleic acid molecule can be complementary to the entire coding
5 region of an MMR mRNA, but more preferably is an oligonucleotide that is antisense to only a portion of the coding or noncoding region of an MMR mRNA. For example, the antisense oligonucleotide can be complementary to the region surrounding the translation start site of an MMR mRNA. An antisense oligonucleotide can be, for example, about 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 45 or 50 nucleotides in length.

10 Screening is any process whereby a chemical compound is exposed to a cell or whole organism. The process of screening can be carried out using but not limited to a whole animal, plant, insect, microbe, or by using a suspension of one or more isolated cells in culture. The cell can be any type of eukaryotic or prokaryotic cell, including, for example, cells isolated from humans or other primates, mammals or other vertebrates,
15 invertebrates, and single celled organisms such as protozoa, yeast, or bacteria.

In general, screening will be carried out using a suspension of cells, or a single cell, but other methods can also be applied as long as a sufficient fraction of the treated cells or tissue is exposed so that isolated cells can be grown and utilized. Techniques for chemical screening are well known to those in the art. Available techniques for screening include
20 cell-based assays, molecular assays, and whole organism-based assays. Compounds can be added to the screening assays of the invention in order to identify those agents that are capable of blocking MMR in cells.

The screening assays of the invention provide a system wherein a cell, cells or a whole organism is contacted with a candidate compound and then tested to determine
25 whether mismatch repair has been adversely affected. The method in which MMR is analyzed may be any known method, including, but not limited to analysis of the molecular sequence of the MMR gene, and analyzing endogenous repeats in the subject's genome. Further, the invention provides a convenient assay to analyze the effects of candidate agents on reporter genes transfected into cells.

30 MMR-inhibitors identified by the methods of the invention can be used to generate new mutations in one or more gene(s) of interest. A gene of interest can be any gene naturally possessed by a cell line, microbe or whole organism. An advantage of using

chemicals rather than recombinant technologies to block MMR are that the process is faster; there is no need to produce stable clones with a knocked out MMR gene or a clone expressing a dominant negative MMR gene allele. Another advantage is that host organisms need not be screened for integrated knock out targeting vectors or stable
5 expression of a dominant negative MMR gene allele. Finally, once a cell, plant or animal has been exposed to the MMR-blocking compound and a new output trait is generated, the MMR process can be restored by removal of compound. Mutations can be detected by analyzing the genotype of the cell, or whole organism, for example, by examining the sequence of genomic DNA, cDNA, messenger RNA, or amino acids associated with the
10 gene of interest. Mutations can also be detected by screening for new output traits such as hypoxanthine-guanine phosphoribosyltransferase (HPRT) revertants. A mutant polypeptide can be detected by identifying alterations in electrophoretic mobility, spectroscopic properties, or other physical or structural characteristics of a protein encoded by a mutant gene. One can also screen for altered function of the protein *in situ*, in isolated
15 form, or in model systems. One can screen for alteration of any property of the cell, plant or animal associated with the function of the gene of interest.

Several advantages exist in generating genetic mutations by blocking MMR *in vivo* in contrast to general DNA damaging agents such as MNNG, MNU and EMS. Cells with MMR deficiency have a wide range of mutations dispersed throughout their entire genome
20 in contrast to DNA damaging agents such as MNNG, MNU, EMS and ionizing radiation. Another advantage is that mutant cells that arise from MMR deficiency are diploid in nature and do not lose large segments of chromosomes as is the case of DNA damaging agents such as EMS, MNU, and ionizing radiation (Honma, M. *et al.* (1997) *Mutat. Res.* 374:89-98). This unique feature allows for subtle changes throughout a host's genome that
25 leads to subtle genetic changes yielding genetically stable hosts with commercially important output traits.

The invention also encompasses blocking MMR *in vivo* and *in vitro* and further exposing the cells or organisms to a chemical mutagen in order to increase the incidence of genetic mutation.

30 The invention also encompasses withdrawing exposure to inhibitors of mismatch repair once a desired mutant genotype or phenotype is generated such that the mutations are thereafter maintained in a stable genome.

The above disclosure generally describes the present invention. A more complete understanding can be obtained by reference to the following specific examples, which are provided herein for purposes of illustration only, and are not intended to limit the scope of the invention.

5

EXAMPLES

EXAMPLE 1: Generation of a cell-based screening assay to identify chemicals capable of inactivating mismatch repair *in vivo*.

A hallmark of MMR deficiency is the generation of unstable microsatellite repeats in the genome of host cells (Peinado, M.A. *et al.* (1992) *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA* 89:10065-10069; Strand, M. *et al.* (1993) *Nature* 365:274-276; Parsons, R. *et al.* (1993) *Cell* 75:1227-1236). This phenotype is referred to as microsatellite instability (MI) (Harfe, B.D. and S. Jinks-Robertson (2000) *Ann. Rev. Genet.* 34:359-399; Modrich, P. (1994) *Science* 266:1959-1960; Peinado, M.A. *et al.* (1992) *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA* 89:10065-10069; Perucho, M. (1996) *Biol. Chem.* 377:675-684; Hoang, J.M. *et al.* (1997) *Cancer Res.* 57:300-303; Strand, M. *et al.* (1993) *Nature* 365:274-276). MI consists of deletions and/or insertions within repetitive mono-, di- and/or tri nucleotide repetitive sequences throughout the entire genome of a host cell. Extensive genetic analysis of eukaryotic cells have found that the only biochemical defect that is capable of producing MI is defective MMR (Harfe, B.D. and S. Jinks-Robertson (2000) *Ann. Rev. Genet.* 34:359-399; Modrich, P. (1994) *Science* 266:1959-1960; Peinado, M.A. *et al.* (1992) *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA* 89:10065-10069; Perucho, M. (1996) *Biol. Chem.* 377:675-684; Hoang, J.M. *et al.* (1997) *Cancer Res.* 57:300-303; Strand, M. *et al.* (1993) *Nature* 365:274-276). In light of this unique feature that defective MMR has on promoting microsatellite instability, endogenous MI is now used as a biochemical marker to survey for lack of MMR activity within host cells (Hoang, J.M. *et al.* (1997) *Cancer Res.* 57:300-303).

A method used to detect MMR deficiency in eukaryotic cells is to employ a reporter gene that has a polynucleotide repeat inserted within the coding region that disrupts its reading frame due to a frame shift. In the case where MMR is defective, the reporter gene will acquire random mutations (*i.e.*, insertions and/or deletions) within the polynucleotide repeat yielding clones that contain a reporter with an open reading frame. This reporter gene can be of any biochemical pathway such as but not limited to β -glucuronidase, β -galactosidase, neomycin resistant gene, hygromycin resistance gene,

green fluorescent protein, and the like. A schematic diagram of MMR-sensitive reporters are shown in Fig. 1, where the polynucleotide repeat can consist of mono-, di-, tri- or tetra-nucleotides. We have employed the use of a β -galactosidase MMR-sensitive reporter gene to measure for MMR activity in H36 cells, which are a murine hybridoma cell line. The reporter construct used is called pCAR-OF, which contains a hygromycin resistance (HYG) gene plus a β -galactosidase gene with a 29 bp out-of-frame poly-CA tract inserted at the 5' end of its coding region. The pCAR-OF reporter cannot generate β -galactosidase activity unless a frame-restoring mutation (*i.e.*, insertion or deletion) arises following transfection. This line has been shown to be sensitive to inactivated MMR where using a dominant negative MMR gene allele has found this condition to result in the production of β -galactosidase (unpublished data). An example of these data using the dominant negative PMS134 allele is shown in Table 1. Briefly, H36 cells were each transfected with an expression vector containing the PMS134 allele (referred to as HB134) or empty vector and the pCAR-OF vector in duplicate reactions using the protocol below. The PMS134 gene is cloned into the pEF expression vector, which contains the elongation factor promoter upstream of the cloning site followed by a mammalian polyadenylation signal. This vector also contains the NEO^r gene that allows for selection of cells in G418 to identify those retaining this plasmid. Briefly, cells were transfected with 1 μ g of the PMS134 or empty vector using polyliposomes following the manufacturer's protocol (Life Technologies). Cells were then selected in 0.5 mg/ml of G418 for 10 days and G418 resistant cells were pooled together to analyze for gene expression. PMS134 positive cells, which were determined by RT-PCR and western blot (not shown) were expanded and transfected with the pCAR-OF reporter gene that contains a hygromycin (HYG) resistance gene as reporter using the protocol described above. Cells were selected in 0.5 mg/ml G418 and 0.5mg/ml HYG to select for cells retaining both the MMR effector and the pCAR-OF reporter plasmids. All cultures transfected with the pCAR vector resulted in a similar number of HYG/G418 resistant cells. Cultures were then expanded and tested for β -galactosidase activity *in situ* as well as by biochemical analysis of cell extracts. For *in situ* analysis, 100,000 cells were harvested and fixed in 1% gluteraldehyde, washed in phosphate buffered saline solution and incubated in 1 ml of X-gal substrate solution [0.15 M NaCl, 1 mM MgCl₂, 3.3 mM K₄Fe(CN)₆, 3.3 mM K₃Fe(CN)₆, 0.2% X-Gal] in 24 well plates for 2 hours at 37°C. Reactions were stopped in 500 mM sodium bicarbonate

solution and transferred to microscope slides for analysis. Three fields of 200 cells each were counted for blue (β -galactosidase positive cells) or white (β -galactosidase negative cells) to assess for MMR inactivation. Table 1 shows the results from these studies.

While no β -galactosidase positive cells were observed in H36 empty vector cells and 10% of the cells per field were β -galactosidase positive in HB134 cultures.

Table 1. β -galactosidase expression of H36 empty vector and HB134 cells transfected with pCAR-OF reporter vectors. Cells were transfected with the pCAR-OF reporter plasmid. Transfected cells were selected in HYG and G418, expanded and stained with X-gal solution to measure for β -galactosidase activity (blue colored cells). 3 fields of 200 cells each were analyzed by microscopy. The results below represent the mean \pm standard deviation of these experiments.

Table 1.

CELL LINE	# BLUE CELLS
H36 empty vector	0 \pm 0
HB134	20 \pm 3

Cultures can be further analyzed by biochemical assays using cell extracts to measure β -galactosidase activity as previously described (Nicolaidis, N.C. *et al.* (1998) *Mol. Cell. Biol.* 18:1635-1641).

The data described in Table 1 show that by inhibiting the MMR activity of an MMR proficient cell host can result in MI and the altering of microsatellites in the pCAR-OF vector results in cells that produce functional β -galactosidase enzyme. The use of the H36pCAR-OF cell line can now be used to screen for chemicals that are able to block MMR of the H36 cell line.

EXAMPLE 2: Screening assays for identifying chemical blockers of MMR.

A method for screening chemical libraries is provided in this example using the H36pCAR-OF cell line described in Example 1. This cell line is a hardy, stable line that can be formatted into 96-well microtiter plates for automated screening for chemicals that

specifically block MMR. An overview of the screening process is given in Figure 2, however, the process is not limited to the specifications within this example. Briefly, 10,000 cells in a total volume of 0.1ml of growth medium (RPMI1640 plus 10% fetal bovine serum) are added to 96-well microtiter plates containing any variety of chemical compounds. Cells are grown for 14-17 days at 37°C in 5%CO₂. Cells are then lysed in the growth medium with 50µls of lysis buffer containing 0.1 M Tris buffer (pH 8.0), 0.1% Triton X-100, 45 mM 2-mercaptoethanol, 1mM MgCl₂, 0.1 M NaPO₄ and 0.6 mg/ml Chlorophenol-red- β-D-galactopyranoside (CPRG, Roche). Reactions are incubated for 1 hour, terminated by the addition of 50 µls of 0.5 M Na₂CO₃, and analyzed by spectrophotometry at 576 nm.

Experimental wells are compared to untreated or vehicle treated wells to identify those with increased β-galactosidase activity. Compounds producing MMR blocking activity are then further analyzed using different cell lines containing the pCAR-OF plasmid to measure the ability to block MMR as determined by MI in MMR proficient hosts by analyzing endogenous microsatellites for instability using assays described below.

EXAMPLE 3: Defining MMR blocking chemicals.

The identification of chemical inhibitors of MMR can be difficult in determining those that are standard mutagens from those that induce genomic instability via the blockade of MMR. This Example teaches of a method for determining blockers of MMR from more general mutagens. Once a compound has been identified in the assay described above, one can determine if the compound is a general mutagen or a specific MMR blocker by monitoring mutation rates in MMR proficient cells and a controlled subclone that is MMR defective. One feature of MMR deficiency is the increased resistance to toxicity of DNA alkylating agents that allows for enhanced rates of mutations upon mutagen exposure (Liu, L., et.al. *Cancer Res* (1996) 56:5375-5379). This unique feature allows for the use of a MMR proficient cell and a controlled line to measure for enhanced activity of a chemical compound to induce mutations in MMR proficient vs MMR deficient lines. If the compound is a true inhibitor of MMR then genetic mutations should occur in MMR proficient cells while no "enhanced" mutation rate will be found in already MMR defective cells. Using these criteria chemicals such as ICR191, which induces frameshift mutations in mammalian cells would not be considered a MMR

reporter construct used is called pCAR-OF, which contains a hygromycin resistance (HYG) gene plus a β -galactosidase gene with a 29 bp out-of-frame poly-CA tract inserted at the 5' end of its coding region. The pCAR-OF reporter cannot generate β -galactosidase activity unless a frame-restoring mutation (*i.e.*, insertion or deletion) arises following

5 transfection. This line has been shown to be sensitive to inactivated MMR where using a dominant negative MMR gene allele has found this condition to result in the production of β -galactosidase (unpublished data). An example of these data using the dominant negative PMS134 allele is shown in Table 1. Briefly, H36 cells were each transfected with an expression vector containing the PMS134 allele (referred to as HB134) or empty vector

10 and the pCAR-OF vector in duplicate reactions using the protocol below. The PMS134 gene is cloned into the pEF expression vector, which contains the elongation factor promoter upstream of the cloning site followed by a mammalian polyadenylation signal. This vector also contains the NEO^r gene that allows for selection of cells in G418 to identify those retaining this plasmid. Briefly, cells were transfected with 1 μ g of the

15 PMS134 or empty vector using polyliposomes following the manufacturer's protocol (Life Technologies). Cells were then selected in 0.5 mg/ml of G418 for 10 days and G418 resistant cells were pooled together to analyze for gene expression. PMS134 positive cells, which were determined by RT-PCR and western blot (not shown) were expanded and transfected with the pCAR-OF reporter gene that contains a hygromycin (HYG) resistance

20 gene as reporter using the protocol described above. Cells were selected in 0.5 mg/ml G418 and 0.5mg/ml HYG to select for cells retaining both the MMR effector and the pCAR-OF reporter plasmids. All cultures transfected with the pCAR vector resulted in a similar number of HYG/G418 resistant cells. Cultures were then expanded and tested for β -galactosidase activity *in situ* as well as by biochemical analysis of cell extracts. For *in*

25 *situ* analysis, 100,000 cells were harvested and fixed in 1% gluteraldehyde, washed in phosphate buffered saline solution and incubated in 1 ml of X-gal substrate solution [0.15 M NaCl, 1 mM MgCl₂, 3.3 mM K₄Fe(CN)₆, 3.3 mM K₃Fe(CN)₆, 0.2% X-Gal] in 24 well plates for 2 hours at 37°C. Reactions were stopped in 500 mM sodium bicarbonate solution and transferred to microscope slides for analysis. Three fields of 200 cells each

30 were counted for blue (β -galactosidase positive cells) or white (β -galactosidase negative cells) to assess for MMR inactivation. Table 1 shows the results from these studies.

blocking compound because of its ability to produce enhanced mutation rates in already MMR defective cell lines (Chen, W.D., et.al. *J Natl Cancer Inst.* (2000) 92:480-485). These screening lines include the but are not limited those in which a dominant negative MMR gene has been introduced such as that described in EXAMPLE 1 or those in which naturally MMR deficient cells such as HCT116 has been cured by introduction of a complementing MMR gene as described (Chen, W.D., et.al. *J Natl Cancer Inst.* (2000) 92:480-485).

EXAMPLE 4: Identification of chemical inhibitors of MMR *in vivo*.

MMR is a conserved post replicative DNA repair mechanism that repairs point mutations and insertion/deletions in repetitive sequences after cell division. The MMR requires an ATPase activity for initiation complex recognition and DNA translocation. *In vitro* assays have shown that the use of nonhydrolyzable forms of ATP such as AMP-PNP and ATP[gamma]S block the MMR activity (Galio, L. et al. (1999) *Nucl. Acids Res.* 27:2325-2331; Allen, D.J. et al. (1997) *EMBO J.* 16:4467-4476; Bjornson K.P. et al. (2000) *Biochem.* 39:3176-3183).

The use of chemicals to inhibit endogenous MMR *in vivo* has not been distinguished in the public domain. In an attempt to identify chemicals that can inhibit MMR *in vivo*, we used our H36pCAR-OF screening assay to screen for chemicals that are able to cause microsatellite instability and restoration of β -galactosidase activity from the pCAR-OF vector, an effect that can only be caused due to MMR deficiency. In our screening assays we used a variety of classes of compounds ranging from steroids such as pontasterone to potent alkylating agents such as EMS, to kinase and other enzyme inhibitors. Screens identified one class of chemicals that were capable of generating β -galactosidase positive cells. These molecules were derived from the anthracene class. An example of one such anthracene derivative for the purposes of this application is a molecule called 9,10-dimethylantracene, referred to from here on as DMA. Fig. 3 shows the effect of DMA in shifting the pCAR-OF reporter plasmid. In contrast, general DNA alkylating agents such as EMS or MNNG did not result in MI and/or the shifting of the polynucleotide tract in the pCAR-OF reporter.

The most likely explanation for the differences in β -galactosidase activity was that the DMA compound disturbed MMR activity, resulting in a higher frequency of mutation

within the pCAR-OF reporter and re-establishing the ORF. To directly test the hypothesis that MMR was altered, we employ a biochemical assay for MMR with the individual clones as described by Nicolaides *et al.*, 1997 (Nicolaides, N.C. *et al.* (1998) *Mol. Cell. Biol.* 18:1635-1641). Nuclear extracts are prepared from the clones and incubated with
5 heteroduplex substrates containing either a /CA\ insertion-deletion or a G/T mismatch under conditions described previously. The /CA\ and G/T heteroduplexes are used to test repair from the 3' and 5' directions, respectively as described (Nicolaides, N.C. *et al.* (1998) *Mol. Cell. Biol.* 18:1635-1641).

10 **Biochemical assays for mismatch repair.**

Enzymatic Repair Assays:

MMR activity in nuclear extracts is performed as described, using 24 fmol of substrate (Nicolaides, N.C. *et al.* (1998) *Mol. Cell. Biol.* 18:1635-1641).

Complementation assays are done by adding ~ 100 ng of purified MutLa or MutSa
15 components to 100 µg of nuclear extract, adjusting the final KCl concentration to 100 mM (Nicolaides, N.C. *et al.* (1998) *Mol. Cell. Biol.* 18:1635-1641). The substrates used in these experiments contain a strand break 181 nucleotides 5' or 125 nucleotides 3' to the mismatch.

20 **Biochemical Activity Assays:**

To demonstrate the direct effect to small molecules on MMR proteins, molecular assays such as mismatch binding and MMR complex formation are performed in the presence or absence of drug. Briefly, MMR gene cDNAs are PCR amplified using primers encompassing the entire coding regions of the known MMR proteins MSH2 (SEQ ID
25 NO:20), GTBP (SEQ ID NO:26), MLH1 (SEQ ID NO:22), human PMS2 (SEQ ID NO:16), mouse PMS2 (SEQ ID NO:14), PMS1 (SEQ ID NO:18), and MHS3 (SEQ ID NO:28) from any species with a sense primer containing a T7 promoter and a Kozak translation signal as previously described (Nicolaides, N.C. *et al.* (1998) *Mol. Cell. Biol.* 18:1635-1641). The coding regions of known MMR proteins include the sequences shown
30 in Table 3 for mouse *PMS2* (SEQ ID NO:15), human *PMS2* (SEQ ID NO:17), human *PMS1* (SEQ ID NO:19), human *MSH2* (SEQ ID NO:21), human *MLH1* (SEQ ID NO:23), and human *MSH3* (SEQ ID NO:29). Products are transcribed and translated using the

TNT system (Promega). An example of PCR primers and *in vitro* transcription-translation reactions are listed below.

In vitro transcription-translation:

5 Linear DNA fragments containing *hPMS2* (SEQ ID NO:17) and *hMLH1* (SEQ ID NO:23) cDNA sequences were prepared by PCR, incorporating sequences for *in vitro* transcription and translation in the sense primer. A full-length *hMLH1* fragment was prepared using the sense primer

10 5'-ggatcctaatacgaactcactatagggagaccaccatgtcgttcgtggcaggg-3' (SEQ ID NO:1)(codons 1-6) and the antisense primer 5'-taagtcttaagtgtaccaac-3' (SEQ ID NO:2)(located in the 3' untranslated region, nt 2411-2433), using a wild-type *hMLH1* cDNA clone as template. A full-length *hPMS2* fragment was prepared with the sense primer

15 5'-ggatcctaatacgaactcactatagggagaccaccatggaacaattgcctgcgg-3' (SEQ ID NO:3)(codons 1-6) and the antisense primer 5'-aggttagtgaagactctgtc-3' (SEQ ID NO:4)(located in 3' untranslated region, nt 2670-2690) using a cloned *hPMS2* cDNA as template. These fragments were used to produce proteins via the coupled transcription-translation system (Promega). The reactions were supplemented with ³⁵S-labelled methionine or unlabelled methionine. Lower molecular weight bands are presumed to be degradation products and/or polypeptides translated from alternative internal methionines.

20 To study the effects of MMR inhibitors, assays are used to measure the formation of MLH1 and PMS2 with or without compound using polypeptides produced in the TNT System (Promega) followed by immunoprecipitation (IP). To facilitate the IP, tags may be placed at the C-terminus of the PMS2 protein to use for antibody binding or antibodies directed to the MMR protein itself can be used for IP.

25 **Immunoprecipitations:**

 Immunoprecipitations are performed on *in vitro* translated proteins by mixing the translation reactions with 1 µg of the MLH1 specific monoclonal antibody (mAB) MLH14 (Oncogene Science, Inc.), a polyclonal antibody generated to codons 2-20 of hPMS2 described above, or a polyclonal antibody generated to codons 843-862 of hPMS2 (Santa Cruz Biotechnology, Inc.) in 400 µl of EBC buffer (50 mM Tris, pH 7.5, 0.1 M NaCl, 0.5% NP40). After incubation for 1 hr at 4°C, protein A sepharose (Sigma) is added to a

30 final concentration of 10% and reactions are incubated at 4°C for 1 hour. Proteins bound

to protein A are washed five times in EBC and separated by electrophoresis on 4-20% Tris-glycine gels, which are then dried and autoradiographed.

Compounds that block heterodimerization of mutS or mutL proteins can now be identified using this assay.

5

EXAMPLE 5: Use of chemical MMR inhibitors yields microsatellite instability in human cells

In order to demonstrate the global ability of a chemical inhibitor of MMR in host cells and organisms, we treated human HEK293 cells (referred to as 293 cells) with DMA and measured for microsatellite instability of endogenous loci using the BAT26 diagnostic marker (Hoang J.M. *et al.* (1997) *Cancer Res.* 57:300-303). Briefly, 10⁵ cells were grown in control medium or 250 μ M DMA, a concentration that is found to be non-toxic, for 14 to 17 days. Cells are then harvested and genomic DNA isolated using the salting out method (Nicolaidis, N.C. *et al.* (1991) *Mol. Cell. Biol.* 11:6166-6176.).

15 Various amounts of test DNAs from HCT116 (a human colon epithelial cell line) and 293 were first used to determine the sensitivity of our microsatellite test. The BAT26 alleles are known to be heterogeneous between these two cell lines and the products migrate at different molecular weights (Nicolaidis personal observation). DNAs were diluted by limiting dilution to determine the level of sensitivity of the assay. DNAs were PCR amplified using the BAT26F: 5'-tgactacttttgacttcagcc-3' (SEQ ID NO:43) and the BAT26R: 5'-aaccattcaacattttaaccc-3' (SEQ ID NO:44) primers in buffers as described (Nicolaidis, N.C. *et al.* (1995) *Genomics* 30:195-206). Briefly 1 pg to 100 ngs of DNA were amplified using the following conditions: 94°C for 30 sec, 58°C for 30 sec, 72°C for 30 sec for 30 cycles. PCR reactions were electrophoresed on 12% polyacrylamide TBE gels (Novex) or 4% agarose gels and stained with ethidium bromide. These studies found that 0.1 ng of genomic DNA was the limit of detection using our conditions.

To measure for microsatellite stability in 293 cells grown with or without DMA, 0.1 ngs of DNA from DMA-treated or control 293 cells were amplified using the reaction conditions above. Forty individual reactions were carried out for each sample to measure for minor alleles. Fig. 4A shows a typical result from these studies whereby BAT26 alleles were amplified from DMA-treated and untreated cells and analyzed on 12% PAGE gels (Novex). Alleles from DMA-treated cells showed the presence of an altered allele

(asterisk) that migrated differently from the wild type allele. No altered alleles were found in the MMR-proficient control cells as expected since MI only occurs in MMR defective cell hosts. To confirm these data, PCRs were repeated using isolated BAT26 products. Primers and conditions were the same as described above except that reactions were

5 amplified for 20 cycles. PCR products were gel-purified and cloned into T-tailed vectors (InVitrogen) as suggested by the manufacturer. Recombinant clones from DMA-treated and control cells were screened by PCR again using the BAT26 primers. Fifty bacterial colonies were analyzed for BAT26 structure by directly adding an aliquot of live bacteria to the PCR mix. PCR reactions were carried out as described above, and products were

10 electrophoresed on 4% agarose gels and stained with ethidium bromide. As shown in Figure 4B, microsatellites from DMA-treated cells had alterations (asterisks) that made the marker length larger or smaller than the wild type allele found in control cells.

To confirm that these differences in molecular weight were due to shifts within the polynucleotide repeat, a hallmark of defective MMR, five clones from each sample were

15 sequenced using an ABI automated sequencer with an M13-R primer located in the T-tail vector backbone. Sequence analysis revealed that the control cell clone used in our studies was homozygous for the BAT26 allele with a 26nt polyA repeat. Cells treated with DMA found multiple alleles ranging from the wild-type with 26 polyA repeat to shorter alleles (24 polyA repeat) and larger alleles (28 polyA repeat) (Fig. 5).

20 These data corroborate the H36pCAR data in Example 1 and Fig. 3 and demonstrates the ability to block MMR with a chemical in a range of hosts.

Example 6: Chemical inhibitors of MMR generate DNA hypermutability in Plants and new phenotypes.

25 To determine if chemical inhibitors of MMR work across a diverse array of organisms, we explored the activity of DMA on *Arabidopsis thaliana* (AT), a member of the mustard plant family, as a plant model system to study the effects of DMA on generating MMR deficiency, genome alterations, and new output traits.

Briefly, AT seeds were sterilized with straight commercial bleach and 100 seeds

30 were plated in 100mm Murashige and Skoog (MS) phytagar (Life Technology) plates with increasing amounts of DMA (ranging from 100µm to 50mM). A similar amount of seeds were plated on MS phytagar only or in MS phytagar with increasing amounts of EMS

(100 μ M to 50mM), a mutagen commonly used to mutate AT seeds (McCallum, C.M.*et al.* (2000) *Nat. Biotechnol.* 18:455-457). Plates were grown in a temperature-controlled, fluorescent-lighted humidifier (Percival Growth Chamber) for 10 days. After 10 days, seeds were counted to determine toxicity levels for each compound. Table 2 shows the number of healthy cells/treatment as determined by root formation and shoot formation. Plantlets that were identical to untreated seeds were scored healthy. Seeds with stunted root or shoot formation were scored intermediate (inter). Non-germinated seeds were scored dead.

Table 2: Toxicity curve of DMA and EMS on *Arabidopsis* (per 100 cells)

	0	0.1	0.5	1.0	2.5	5.0	10	12.5	25	50
DMA										
Healthy	100	94	99	99	80	85	65	0	0	0
Inter	0	0	0	0	20	15	32	85	100	0
Dead	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	100
EMS										
Healthy	99	100	45	25	0	0	0	0	0	0
Inter	0	0	54	75	0	0	0	0	0	0
Dead	0	0	0	0	100	100	100	100	100	87

10

The data in Table 2 show that DMA toxicity occurs at 10mM of continuous culture, while toxicity occurs at 250 μ M for EMS. Next, 50 seeds were plated in two 150mm dishes containing 2mM DMA, 250 μ M EMS or no drug. Seeds were grown for 10 days and then 10 plants from each plate were transferred to soil. All plants appeared to be similar in color and height. Plants were grown at room temperature with daily cycles of 18 hr light and 6 hr dark. After 45 days seeds are harvested from siliques and stored in a desiccator at 4°C for 72 hours. Seeds are then sterilized and 100 seeds from each plant is sown directly into water-saturated soil and grown at room temperature with daily cycles of 18 hr light and 6 hr dark. At day 10 phenotypically distinct plants were found in 7 out of 118 DMA treated while no phenotypic difference was observed in 150 EMS-treated or 150 control plants. These 7 altered plants were light green in color and appeared to grow

15

20

slower. Fig. 6 shows a typical difference between the DMA altered plant and controls. DMA-exposed plants produced offspring that were yellow in appearance in contrast to dark green, which is always found in wild-type plants. In addition, the yellow plants were also shorter. After 30 days, most wild-type plants produced flowers and siliques, while the
5 7 mutants just began flowering. After 45 days, control plants were harvested while mutant plants were harvested 10 to 15 days later. No such effects were observed in 150 plantlets from EMS treated plants.

The effect of DMA on MMR was confirmed by monitoring the structure of endogenous polynucleotide repeat markers within the plant genome. DNA was extracted
10 using the DNAzol method following the manufacturer's protocol (Life Technology). Briefly, two leaves were harvested from DMA, EMS or untreated plants and DNA was extracted. DNAs were quantified by optical density using a BioRad Spectrophotometer. In *Arabidopsis*, a series of poly-A (A)_n, (CA)_n and (GA)_n markers were found as a result of EMBL and GenBank database searches of DNA sequence data generated as a result of the
15 *Arabidopsis* genome-sequencing project. Two markers that are naturally occurring, ATHACS and Nga128 are used to monitor microsatellite stability using primers described (Bell, C.J. and J.R. Ecker (1994) *Genomics* 19:137-144). ATHACS has a stretch of thirty-six adenine repeats (A)₃₆ whereas Nga128 is characterized by a di-nucleotide AG repeat that is repeated nineteen times (AG)₁₉ while the Nga280 marker contains a polyAG repeat
20 marker with 15 dinucleotides. DMA-mediated alterations of these markers are measured by a PCR assay. Briefly, the genomic DNA is amplified with specific primers in PCR reaction buffers described above using 1-10ng plant genomic DNA. Primers for each marker are listed below:

nga280:

25 nga280-F: 5'-CTGATCTCACGGACAATAGTGC-3' (SEQ ID NO:5)
nga280-R: 5'-GGCTCCATAAAAAGTGCACC-3' (SEQ ID NO:6)

nga128:

30 nga128-F: 5'-GGTCTGTTGATGTCGTAAGTCG-3' (SEQ ID NO:7)
nga128-R: 5'-ATCTTGAAACCTTTAGGGAGGG-3' (SEQ ID NO:8)

ATHACS:

ATHACS-F: 5'-AGAAGTTTAGACAGGTAC-3' (SEQ ID NO:9)
35 ATHACS-R: 5'-AAATGTGCAATTGCCTTC-3' (SEQ ID NO:10)

Cycling conditions are 94°C for 15 seconds, 55°C for 15 seconds and 72°C for 30 seconds, conditions that have been demonstrated to efficiently amplify these two markers (personal observation, Morphotek). PCR products are analyzed on 3.5% metaphor agarose gel in Tris-Acetate-EDTA buffer following staining with ethidium bromide.

5 Another method used to demonstrate that biochemical activity of a plant host's MMR is through the use of reporter genes disrupted by a polynucleotide repeat, similar to that described in Example 1 and Fig. 1. Due to the high endogenous β -galactosidase background, we engineered a plant compatible MMR-sensitive reporter gene consisting of the β -glucuronidase (GUS) gene with a mononucleotide repeat that was inserted just
10 downstream of the initiation codon. Two reporter constructs were generated. pGUS-OF, contained a 20 base adenine repeat inserted just downstream of the initiating methionine that resulted in a frameshift, therefore producing a nonfunctional enzyme. The second, pGUS-IF, contained a 19 base adenine repeat that retained an open reading frame and served as a control for β -glucuronidase activity. Both constructs were generated by PCR
15 using the pBI-121 vector (Life Technologies) as template. The antisense primer was directed to the 3' end of the Nopaline Synthase (NOS) polytermination sequence contained within the pBI-121 plasmid and contained a unique *EcoRI* restriction site to facilitate cloning of the vector into the pBI-121 binary vector backbone. The sense primers contained a unique *BamHI* restriction site to facilitate cloning of the chimeric GUS
20 reporter gene into the pBI-121 binary vector backbone. The primers used to generate each reporter are:

- 25 1. sense primer for pGUS-IF (uidA-ATG-polyA-IF):
5'- CCC GGA TCC ATG TTA AAA AAA AAA AAA AAA CGT CCT GTA GAA ACC-3' (SEQ ID NO:11)
2. sense primer for pGUS-OF (uidA-ATG-polyA-OF):
5'- CCC GGA TCC ATG TTA AAA AAA AAA AAA AAA AAA ACG TCC TGT AGA AAC C-3' (SEQ ID NO:12)
- 30 3. antisense primer (Nos-term):
5'- CCC GAA TTC CCC GAT CTA GTA ACA TAG ATG-3' (SEQ ID NO:13)

PCR amplifications were carried out using reaction buffers described above.
35 Reactions were performed using 1 ng of pBI-121 vector as template (Life Technologies) and the appropriate corresponding primers. Amplifications were carried at 94°C for 30

seconds, 54°C for 60 seconds and 72°C for 60 seconds for 25 cycles. PCR products of the expected molecular weight was gel purified, cloned into T-tailed vectors (InVitrogen), and sequenced to ensure authentic sequence using the following primers: CaMV-FORW. [= 5'-gat atc tcc act gac gta ag-3'] (SEQ ID NO:30) for sequencing from the CaMV promoter into the 5' end of GUS cDNAs; NOSpA-42F [= 5'-tgt tgc cgg tct tgc gat g-3'] (SEQ ID NO:31) for sequencing of the NOS terminator; NOSpA-Cend-R [= 5'-ccc gat cta gta aca tag atg-3'] (SEQ ID NO:32) for sequencing from the NOS terminator into the 3' end of the GUS cDNAs; GUS-63F [= 5'-cag tct gga tcg cga aaa ctg-3'] (SEQ ID NO:33), GUS-441F [= 5'-ggt gat tac cga cga aaa cg-3'] (SEQ ID NO:34), GUS-825F [= 5'-agt gaa ggg cga aca gtt cc-3'] (SEQ ID NO:35), GUS-1224F [= 5'-gag tat tgc caa cga acc-3'] (SEQ ID NO:36), GUS-1596F [= 5'-gta tca ccg cgt ctt tga tc-3'] (SEQ ID NO:37), GUS-265R [= 5'-cga aac gca gca cga tac g-3'] (SEQ ID NO:38), GUS-646R [= 5'-gtt caa cgc tga cat cac c-3'] (SEQ ID NO:39), GUS-1033R [= 5'-cat gtt cat ctg ccc agt cg-3'] (SEQ ID NO:40), GUS-1425R [= 5'-gct ttg gac ata cca tcc-3'] (SEQ ID NO:41), and GUS-1783R [= 5'-cac cga agt tca tgc cag-3'] (SEQ ID NO:42) for the sequence of the full length GUS cDNAs. No mutation were found in either the OF or IF version of the GUS cDNA, and the expected frames for both cDNAs were also confirmed. pCR-IF-GUS and pCR-OF-GUS plasmids were subsequently digested with the BamH I and EcoR I restriction endonucleases, to generate DNA fragments containing the GUS cDNA along with the NOS terminator. These fragments were ligated into the BamH I and the EcoR I sites of the pBI-121 plasmid, which was prepared for cloning by cutting it with the same enzymes to release the wild type GUS cDNA. The resulting constructs (pBI-IF-GUS and pBI-OF-GUS) were subsequently digested with Hind III and EcoR I to release the DNA fragments encompassing the CaMV promoter, the IF or OF GUS cDNA, and the NOS terminator. Finally, these fragments were ligated into the correspondent restriction sites present in the pGPTV-HPT binary vector (ATCC) to obtain the pCMV-IF-GUS-HPT and pCMV-OF-GUS-HPT binary vectors.

The resulting vectors, CMV-OF-GUS-HPT and CMV-IF-GUS-HPT now contain the CaMV35S promoter from the Cauliflower Mosaic 35 S Virus driving the GUS gene followed by a NOS terminator and polyadenylation signal (Fig. 7). In addition, this vector also contains a hygromycin resistance gene as a selectable marker that is used to select for plants containing this reporter.

Generation of GUS reporter-expressing *Arabidopsis thaliana* transgenic plants.

Agrobacterium tumefaciens bacteria are used to shuttle binary expression vectors into plants. To generate β -glucoronidase-expressing *Arabidopsis thaliana* (*A. thaliana*) plants, *Agrobacterium tumefaciens* cells (strain GV3101) were electroporated with the

5 CMV-OF-GUS-HPT or the CMV-IF-GUS-HPT binary vector using methods known by those skilled in the art. Briefly, one-month old *A. thaliana* (ecotype Columbia) plants were infected by immersion in a solution containing 5% sucrose, 0.05% silwet and binary vector-transformed *Agrobacterium* cells for 10 seconds. These plants were then grown at 25°C under a 16 hour day and 8 hour dark photoperiod. After 4 weeks, seeds (referred to as

10 T1) were harvested and dried for 5 days. Thirty thousands seeds from ten CMV-OF-GUS-HPT or CMV-IF-GUS-HPT-transformed plants were sown in solid Murashige and Skoog (MS) media plates in the presence of 20 μ g/ml of hygromycin (HYG). Three hundred plants were found to be HYG resistant and represented GUS expressing plants. These plants along with 300 control plants were grown in MS media for two weeks and then

15 transferred to soil. Plants were grown for an additional four weeks under standard conditions at which time T2 seeds were harvested.

To confirm the integration and stability of the GUS vector in the plant genome, gene segregation and PCR analyses were conducted. Commonly, three out of four T1 plants transformed by *Agrobacterium* technology are expected to carry the vector inserted

20 within a single locus and are therefore considered heterozygous for the integrated gene. Approximately 75% of the seeds (T2) generated from most of the T1 plants were found HYG-resistant and this in accordance with the expected 1:2:1 ratio of null (no GUS containing plants), heterozygous, and homozygous plants, respectively, in self-pollinating conditions. To confirm that these plants contained the GUS expression vector, genomic

25 DNA was isolated from leaves of T1 plants using the DNazol-mediated technique as described above. One ng of genomic DNA was analyzed by polymerase chain reaction (PCR) to confirm the presence of the GUS vector. PCR was carried out for 25 cycles with the following parameters: 95°C for 30 seconds; 54°C for 1 minute; and 72°C for 2 minutes using primers listed above. Positive reactions were observed in DNA from CMV-OF-

30 GUS-HPT and CMV-IF-GUS-HPT-transformed plants and not from control (uninfected) plants.

In order to assess the expression of the GUS in T1 plants, leaf tissue was collected from T1 plants, homogenized in liquid nitrogen using glass pestles, and suspended in RLT lysing buffer (Qiagen, RNeasy plant RNA extraction kit). Five micrograms of total RNA was purified according to the manufacturer's suggested protocol and then loaded onto a
5 1.2% agarose gel (1x MOPS buffer, 3% formaldehyde), size-fractionated by electrophoresis, and transferred onto N-Hybond+ membrane (Amersham). Each membrane was incubated at 55°C in 10 ml of hybridization solution (North2South labeling kit, Pierce) containing 100 ng of GUS, tubulin, or HYG probes, which were generated by PCR amplification, according to the manufacturer's directions. Membranes were washed three
10 times in 2x SSC, 0.1% SDS at 55°C, and three times in 2x SSC at ambient temperature. Detection was carried out using enhanced chemiluminescence (ECL). GUS message was detected in three out of ten analyzed transgenic lines, while no signal was found in the control plants. Collectively these studies demonstrated the generation of GUS expressing transgenic *A. thaliana* plants.

15 To determine the status of MMR activity in host plants, one can measure for the production of functional β -glucuronidase by staining plant leaves or roots *in situ* for β -glu activity. Briefly, plant tissue is washed twice with water and fixed in 4 mls of 0.02% glutaraldehyde for 15 minutes. Next, tissue is rinsed with water and incubated in X-glu solution [0.1M NaPO₄, 2.5 mM K₃Fe(CN)₆, 2.5mM K₄Fe(CN)₆, 1.5 mM MgCl₂, and 1
20 mg/ml X-GLU (5 bromo-4-chloro-3-indoyl- β -D-glucuronide sodium salt) (Gold Biotechnology)] for 6 hours at 37°C. Tissues are then washed twice in phosphate buffered saline (PBS) solution, once in 70% ethanol and incubated for 4 hours in methanol:acetone (3:1) for 8 hours to remove chlorophyll. Tissues are then washed twice in PBS and stored in PBS with 50% glycerol. Plant tissue with functional GUS activity will stain blue.

25 The presence of GUS activity in CMV-IF-GUS-HPT plants indicates that the in-frame N-terminus insertion of the poly A repeat does not disrupt the GUS protein function. The CMV-OF-GUS-HPT plants treated with DMA, EMS or untreated are tested to determine if these plants produce GUS activity. The presence of GUS activity in DMA treated plants indicates that the polyA repeat was altered, therefore, resulting in a frame-
30 restoring mutation. Agents such as EMS, which are known to damage DNA by alkylation cannot affect the stability of a polynucleotide repeat. This data indicates that plants are defective for MMR, the only process known to be responsible for MI.

These data demonstrate the utility and power of using a chemical inhibitor of MMR to generate a high degree of genetic alteration that is not capable by means of standard DNA damaging drugs. Moreover, this application teaches of the use of reporter genes such as GUS-OF in plants to monitor for the MMR activity of a plant host.

5

EXAMPLE 7: Use of chemical MMR inhibitors yields microsatellite instability in microbes.

To demonstrate the ability of chemical inhibitors to block MMR in a wide range of hosts, we employed the use of *Pichia* yeast containing a pGUS-OF reporter system similar to that described in Example 5. Briefly, the GUS-OF and GUS-IF gene, which contains a polyA repeat at the N-terminus of the protein was subcloned from the pCR-IF-GUS and pCR-OF-GUS plasmids into the EcoRI site of the pGP vector, which is a constitutively expressed yeast vector containing a zeocin resistance gene as selectable marker. pGP-GUS-IF and pGP-GUS-OF vectors were electroporated into competent *Pichia* cells using standard methods known by those skilled in the art. Cells were plated on YPD agar (10g/L yeast extract; 20 g/L peptone; 2% glucose; 1.5% bactoagar) plates containing 100 µg/ml zeocin. Recombinant yeast are then analyzed for GUS expression/function by replica plating on YPD agar plates containing 100 µg/ml zeocin plus 1 mg/ml X-glu (5-bromo-4-chloro-3-indoyl-beta-D-glucuronide sodium salt) and grown at 30°C for 16 hours. On hundred percent of yeast expressing GUS-IF were found to turn blue in the presence of the X-glu substrate while none of the control yeast turned blue. None of the yeast containing the GUS-OF turned blue in the presence of the X-glu substrate under normal growth conditions.

To demonstrate the ability of chemicals to block MMR in yeast, GUS-OF and control cells were incubated with 300 µM DMA, EMS, or no chemical for 48 hours. After incubation, yeast were plated on YPD-ZEO-X-GLU plates and grown at 30°C for 16 hours. After incubation, a subset of yeast expressing GUS-OF contain blue subclones, while none are seen in EMS or control cells. These data demonstrate the ability of chemicals to block MMR of microbes *in vivo* to produce subclones with new output traits.

30

EXAMPLE 8: Classes of other chemicals capable of blocking MMR in vivo

The discovery of anthracene compounds presents a new method for blocking MMR activity of host organisms *in vivo*. While 9,10-dimethylanthracene (DMA) was found to block MMR in cell hosts, other analogs with a similar chemical composition from this class are also claimed in this invention. These include anthracene and related analogs such as 9,10-diphenylanthracene and 9,10-di-M-tolylanthracene. Myers *et al.* ((1988) *Biochem. Biophys. Res. Commun.* 151:1441-1445) disclosed that at high concentrations, DMA acts as a potent weak mutagen, while metabolized forms of DMA are the "active" ingredients in promoting mutation. This finding suggests that metabolites of anthracene-based compounds may also act as active inhibitors of MMR *in vivo*. For instance, metabolism of anthracene and 9,10-dimethylanthracene by *Micrococcus sp.*, *Pseudomonas sp.* and *Bacillus macerans* microbes have found a number of anthracene and 9,10-dimethylanthracene metabolites are formed. These include anthracene and 9,10-dimethylanthracene cis-dihydrodiols, hydroxy-methyl-derivatives and various phenolic compounds. Bacteria metabolize hydrocarbons using the dioxygenase enzyme system, which differs from the mammalian cytochrome P-450 monooxygenase. These findings suggest the use of bacteria for biotransforming anthracene and DMA for additional MMR blocking compounds (Traczewska, T.M. *et al.* (1991) *Acta. Microbiol. Pol.* 40:235-241). Metabolism studies of DMA by rat-liver microsomal preparations has found that this molecule is converted to 9-Hydroxymethyl-10-methylanthracene (9-OHMeMA) and 9,10-dihydroxymethyl-anthracene (9,10-DiOHMeA) (Lamparczyk, H.S. *et al.* (1984) *Carcinogenesis* 5:1405-1410). In addition, the trans-1,2-dihydro-1,2-dihydroxy derivative of DMA (DMA 1,2-diol) was found to be a major metabolite as determined by chromatographic, ultraviolet (UV), nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR), and mass spectral properties. DMA 1,2-diol was also created through the oxidation of DMA in an ascorbic acid-ferrous sulfate-EDTA system. Other dihydrodiols that are formed from DMA by metabolism are the trans-1,2- and 3,4-dihydrodiols of 9-OHMeMA (9-OHMeMA 1,2-diol and 9-OHMeMA 3,4-diol) while the further metabolism of DMA 1,2-diol can yield both of these dihydrodiols. Finally, when 9-OHMeMA is further metabolized, two main metabolites are formed; one was identified as 9,10-DiOHMeA and the other appeared to be 9-OHMeMA 3,4-diol.

The metabolism of 9-methylanthracene (9-MA), 9-hydroxymethylanthracene (9-OHMA), and 9,10-dimethylanthracene (9,10-DMA) by fungus also has been reported (Cerniglia, C.E. *et al.* (1990) *Appl. Environ. Microbiol.* 56:661-668). These compounds are also useful for generating LMA derivatives capable of blocking MMR. Compounds 9-MA and 9,10-DMA are metabolized by two pathways, one involving initial hydroxylation of the methyl group(s) and the other involving epoxidation of the 1,2- and 3,4- aromatic double bond positions, followed by enzymatic hydration to form hydroxymethyl trans-dihydrodiols. For 9-MA metabolism, the major metabolites identified are trans-1,2-dihydro-1,2-dihydroxy and trans-3,4-dihydro-3,4-dihydroxy derivatives of 9-MA and 9-OHMA, whereby 9-OHMA can be further metabolized to trans-1,2- and 3,4-dihydrodiol derivatives. Circular dichroism spectral analysis revealed that the major enantiomer for each dihydrodiol was predominantly in the S,S configuration, in contrast to the predominantly R,R configuration of the trans-dihydrodiol formed by mammalian enzyme systems. These results indicate that *Caenorhabditis elegans* metabolizes methylated anthracenes in a highly stereoselective manner that is different from that reported for rat liver microsomes.

The analogs as listed above provide an example but are not limited to anthracene-derived compounds capable of eliciting MMR blockade. Additional analogs that are of potential use for blocking MMR are shown in Fig.8.

20

Other classes of small molecular weight compounds that are capable of blocking MMR *in vivo*.

MMR is a multi-step process that involves the formation of protein complexes that detect mismatched bases or altered repetitive sequences and interface these mutations with enzymes that degrade the mutant base and repair the DNA with correct nucleotides. First, mismatched DNA is recognized by the mutS heterodimeric complex consisting of MSH2 and GTBP proteins. The DNA bound mutS complex is then recognized by the mutL heterodimeric complex that consists of PMS2 and MLH1 proteins. The mutL complex is thought to interface exonucleases with the mismatched DNA site, thus initiating this specialized DNA repair process. After the mismatched bases are removed, the DNA is repaired with a polymerase.

30

There are several steps in the normal process that can be targeted by small molecular weight compounds to block MMR. This application teaches of these steps and the types of compounds that may be used to block this process.

5 ATPase inhibitors:

The finding that nonhydrolyzable forms of ATP are able to suppress MMR *in vitro* also suggest that the use for this type of compound can lead to blockade of MMR *in vivo* and mutation a host organism's genome (Galio, L. *et al.* (1999) *Nucl. Acids Res.* 27:2325-2331; Allen, D.J. *et al.* (1997) *EMBO J.* 16:4467-4476; Bjornson, K.P. *et al.* (2000) *Biochem.* 39:3176-3183). One can use a variety of screening methods described within this application to identify ATP analogs that block the ATP-dependent steps of mismatch repair *in vivo*.

Nuclease inhibitors:

15 The removal of mismatched bases is a required step for effective MMR (Harfe, B.D. and S. Jinks-Robertson (2000) *Ann. Rev. Genet.* 34:359-399). This suggests that compounds capable of blocking this step can lead to blockade of MMR *in vivo* and mutation a host organism's genome. One can use a variety of screening methods described within this application to identify nuclease inhibitors analogs that block the nuclease steps
20 of mismatch repair *in vivo*. An example of the types of nuclease inhibitors are but not limited to analogs of N-Ethylmaleimide, an endonuclease inhibitor (Huang, Y.C., et.al. (1995) *Arch. Biochem. Biophys.* 316:485), heterodimeric adenine-chain-acridine compounds, exonulcease III inhibitors (Belmont P, et.al., *Bioorg Med Chem Lett* (2000) 10:293-295), as well as antibiotic compounds such as Heliquinomycin, which have
25 helicase inhibitory activity (Chino, M, et.al. *J. Antibiot. (Tokyo)* (1998) 51:480-486).

Polymerase inhibitors:

Short and long patch repair is a required step for effective MMR (Modrich, P. (1994) *Science* 266:1959-1960). This suggests that compounds capable of blocking
30 MMR-associated polymerization can lead to blockade of MMR *in vivo* and mutation a host organism's genome. One can use a variety of screening methods described within this application to identify polymerase inhibitors analogs that block the polymerization steps of

mismatch repair *in vivo*. An example of DNA polymerase inhibitors that are useful in blocking MMR activity include, but are not limited to, analogs of actinomycin D (Martin, S.J., et.al. (1990) *J. Immunol.* 145:1859), Aphidicolin (Kuwakado, K. et.al. (1993) *Biochem. Pharmacol.* 46:1909) 1-(2'-Deoxy-2'-fluoro-beta-L-arabinofuranosyl)-5-methyluracil (L-FMAU) (Kukhanova M, et.al., *Biochem Pharmacol* (1998) 55:1181-1187), and 2',3'-dideoxyribonucleoside 5'-triphosphates (ddNTPs) (Ono, K., et.al., *Biomed Pharmacother* (1984) 38:382-389).

Chemical Inhibitors of Mismatch Repair Gene Expression

MMR is a multi-protein process that requires the cooperation of several proteins such as but not limited to mutS homologs, MSH2, MSH3, MSH6, GTBP; mutL homologs PMS1, PMS2, MLH1; and exonucleases and helicases such as MutH and MutY (Harfe, B.D. and S. Jinks-Robertson (2000) *Ann. Rev. Genet.* 34:359-399; Modrich, P. (1994) *Science* 266:1959-1960). Chemicals capable of blocking the expression of these genes can lead to the blockade of MMR. An example of a chemical that is capable of blocking MMR gene expression is an oligodeoxynucleotide that can specifically bind and degrade an MMR gene message and protein production as described by Chauhan DP, et.al. (*Clin Cancer Res* (2000) 6:3827-3831). One can use a variety of screening methods described within this application to identify inhibitors that block the expression and/or function of MMR genes *in vivo*.

DISCUSSION

The results described herein demonstrate the use of chemicals that can block mismatch repair of host organisms *in vivo* to produce genetic mutations. The results also demonstrate the use of reporter systems in host cells and organisms that are useful for screening chemicals capable of blocking MMR of the host organism. Moreover, the results demonstrate the use of chemical inhibitors to block MMR in mammalian cells, microbes, and plants to produce organisms with new output traits. The data presented herein provide novel approaches for producing genetically altered plants, microbes, and mammalian cells with output traits for commercial applications by inhibiting MMR with chemicals. This approach gives advantages over others that require the use of recombinant techniques to block MMR or to produce new output traits by expression of a foreign gene.

This method will be useful in producing genetically altered host organisms for agricultural, chemical manufacturing, pharmaceutical, and environmental applications.

PMS2 (mouse) (SEQ ID NO:14)

5	MEQTEGVSTE	CAKAIKPIDG	KSVHQICSGQ	VILSLSTAVK	ELIENSVDAG	ATTIDRLRKD	60
	YGVDLIEVSD	NGCGVEEENF	EGLALKHHTS	KIQEFADLTQ	VETFGFRGEA	LSSLCALSDV	120
	TISTCHGSAS	VGTRLVFDHN	GKITQKTPYP	RPKGTTVSVQ	HLFYTLPVRY	KEFQRNIKKE	180
	YSKMVQVLQA	YCIISAGVRV	SCTNQLGQOK	RHAVVCTSGT	SGMKENIGSV	FGQKQLQSLI	240
	PFVQLPPSDA	VCEEYGLSTS	GRHKTFSTFR	ASFHSARTAP	GGVQQTGSFS	SSIRGPVTQQ	300
10	RSLSLSMRFY	HMYNRHQYPF	VVLNVSDSE	CVDINVTDPK	RQILLQEEKL	LLAVLKTSLI	360
	GMFDSANKL	NVNQQPLLDV	EGNLVKLHTA	ELEKPVPGKQ	DNSPSLKSTA	DEKRVASISR	420
	LREAFSLHPT	KEIKSRGPET	AELTRSFPE	KRGVLSSYPS	DVISYRGLRG	SQDKLVSPDT	480
	SPGDCMDREK	IEKDSGLSST	SAGSEEEFST	PEVASSFSSD	YNVSSLEDRP	SQETINCGDL	540
	DCRPPGTGQS	LKPEDHGYQC	KALPLARLSP	TNAKRFKTEE	RPSNVNISQR	LPGPQSTSAA	600
15	EVDVAIKMNK	RIVLLEFSLS	SLAKRMKQLQ	HLKAQNKHEL	SYRKFRKIC	PGENQAAEDE	660
	LRKEISKSMF	AEMEILGQFN	LGFIIVTKLKE	DLFLVDQHAA	DEKYNFEMLO	QHTVLQAQRL	720
	ITPQTLNLTA	VNEAVLIENL	EIFRKNGFDF	VIDEDAPVTE	RAKLISLPTS	KNWTFGPQDI	780
	DELIFMLSIDS	PGVMCRPSRV	RQMFASRACR	KSMVIGTALN	ASEMKKLITH	MGEMDHPWNC	840
20	PHGRPTMRHV	ANLDVISQN					859

PMS2 (mouse cDNA) (SEQ ID NO:15)

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	taacctgtcg	tcaggtaacg	atggtgtata	tgcaacagaa	atgggtgttc	ctggagacgc	120
25	gtcttttccc	gagagcggca	ccgcaactct	cccgcggtga	ctgtgactgg	aggagtcctg	180
	catccatgga	gcaaaccgaa	ggcgtgagta	cagaatgtgc	taaggccatc	aagcctattg	240
	atgggaagtc	agtccatcaa	atttggttctg	ggcaggtgat	actcagttta	agcaccgctg	300
	tgaaggagtt	gatagaaaat	agtgtagatg	ctggtgctac	tactattgat	ctaaggctta	360
	aagactatgg	ggtggacctc	attgaagttt	cagacaatgg	atgtggggta	gaagaagaaa	420
30	actttgaagg	tctagctctg	aaacatcaca	catctaagat	tcaagagttt	gccgacctca	480
	cgcaggttga	aactttcggc	tttcgggggg	aagctctgag	ctctctgtgt	gcactaagtg	540
	atgtcactat	atctacctgc	cacgggtctg	caagcgttgg	gactcgactg	gtgtttgacc	600
	ataatgggaa	aatcaccag	aaaactccct	accccgacc	taaaggaacc	acagtcagtg	660
	tgcagcactt	attttataca	ctaccctgct	gttacaaga	gtttcagagg	aacattaaaa	720
35	aggagtattc	caaaatggtg	caggtcttac	aggcgtactg	tatcatctca	cgaggcgtcc	780
	gtgtaagctg	cactaatcag	ctcggacagg	ggaagcggca	cgctgtggtg	tgcaacagcg	840
	gcacgtctgg	catgaaggaa	aatatcgggt	ctgtgtttgg	ccagaagcag	ttgcaaagcc	900
	tcattccttt	tggtcagctg	ccccctagtg	acgctgtgtg	tgaagagtac	ggcctgagca	960
40	cttcaggagc	ccacaaaacc	ttttctacgt	ttcgggcttc	atttcacagt	gcacgcacgg	1020
	cgccgggagg	agtgaacacg	acaggcagtt	tttcttcac	aatcagagcg	cctgtgacct	1080
	agcaaaggct	tctaagcttg	tcaatgaggt	tttatcacat	gtataaccgg	catcagtacc	1140
	catttgctgt	ccttaacggt	tccgttgact	cagaatgtgt	ggatattaat	gtaactccag	1200
	ataaaaggca	aattctacta	caagaagaga	agctattgct	ggcgtttta	aagacctcct	1260
45	tgataggaat	gtttgacagt	gatgcaaaca	agcttaatgt	caaccagcag	ccactgctag	1320
	atgttgaagg	taacttagta	aagctgcata	ctgcagaact	agaaaagcct	gtgccaggaa	1380
	agcaagataa	ctctccttca	ctgaagagca	cagcagacga	gaaaagggtg	gcatccatct	1440
	ccaggctgag	agaggccttt	tctcttcac	ctactaaaga	gatcaagtct	aggggtccag	1500
	agactgctga	actgacacgg	agttttccaa	gtgagaaaag	ggcgtgttta	tcctcttacc	1560
50	cttcagacgt	catctcttac	agaggcctcc	gtggctcgca	ggacaaattg	gtgagtccca	1620
	cggacagccc	tggtgactgt	atggacagag	agaaaataga	aaaagactca	gggctcagca	1680
	gcacctcagc	tggtctctgag	gaagagttca	gcacccagag	agtggccag	agcttttagca	1740
	gtgactataa	cgtgagctcc	ctagaagaca	gaccttctca	ggaaaaccata	aactgtggtg	1800
	acctggactg	cgttctctca	ggtacaggac	agtccttgaa	gccagaagac	catggatata	1860
55	aatgcaaagc	tctacctcta	gctcgtctgt	caccacacaa	tgccaagcgc	ttcaagacag	1920
	aggaagacc	ctcaaatgtc	aacatttctc	aaagattgcc	tggtcctcag	agcacctcag	1980
	cagctgaggt	cgatgtagcc	ataaaaatga	ataagagaat	cgtgctcctc	gagttctctc	2040
	tgagttctct	agctaagcga	atgaagcagt	tacagacct	aaaggcgag	aacaaacatg	2100
	aactgagtta	cagaaaattt	agggccaaga	tttgccctgg	agaaaaccaa	gcagcagaag	2160
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	ttaacctggg	atttatagta	accaaactga	aagaggacct	cttcctggtg	gaccagcatg	2280
	ctgcggatga	gaagtacaac	tttgagatgc	tgacagcaga	cacggtgctc	caggcgacga	2340

	ggctcatcac	accccagact	ctgaacttaa	ctgctgtcaa	tgaagctgta	ctgatagaaa	2400
	atctggaaat	attcagaaaag	aatggccttg	actttgtcat	tgatgaggat	gctccagtc	2460
	ctgaaagggc	taaattgatt	tccttaccaa	ctagtaaaaa	ctggaccttt	ggaccccaag	2520
	atatagatga	actgatcttt	atgttaagt	acagccctgg	ggcatgtg	cggccctcac	2580
5	gagtcagaca	gatgtttgct	tccagagcct	gtcgggaagtc	agtgatgatt	ggaacggcgc	2640
	tcaatgcgag	cgagatgaag	aagctcatca	cccacatggg	tgagatggac	cacccttgga	2700
	actgccccca	cggcaggcca	accatgaggc	acgttgccaa	tctggatg	atctctcaga	2760
	actgacacac	cccttgtagc	atagagtta	ttacagattg	ttcggtttgc	aaagagaagg	2820
	ttttaagtaa	tctgattatc	gttgtaaaaa	aattagcatg	ctgctttaat	gtactggatc	2880
10	catttaaaaag	cagtgttaag	gcaggcatga	tggagtgttc	ctctagctca	gctacttggg	2940
	tgatccggtg	ggagctcatg	tgagcccagg	actttgagac	cactccgagc	cacattcatg	3000
	agactcaatt	caaggacaaa	aaaaaaaaag	tatttttgaa	gccttttaaa	aaaaaa	3056

PMS2 (human) (SEQ ID NO:16)

15	MERAESSSTE	PAKAIKPIDR	KSVHQCISGQ	VVLSLSTAVK	ELVENS LDAG	ATNIDLKLKD	60
	YGVDLIEVSD	NGCGVEEENF	EGLTLKHHTS	KIQEFADLTQ	VETFGFRGEA	LSSL CALSDV	120
	TISTCHASAK	VGTRLMFDHN	GKIIQKTPYP	RPRGTTVSQ	QLFSTLPVRH	KEFQRNIKKE	180
	YAKMVQVLHA	YCIISAGIRV	SCTNQLGQ GK	RQPVVCTGGS	PSIKENIGSV	FGQKQLQSLI	240
	PFVQLPPSDS	VCEEYGLSCS	DALHNLFIYS	GFISQCTHGV	GRSSTDROFF	FINRRPCDPA	300
20	KVCRLVNEVY	HMYNRHQYPF	VVLNISVDSE	CVDINVTDPK	RQILLQEEKL	LLAVLKTS LI	360
	GMFDSDVNKL	NVSQQPLLDV	EGNLIKMHAA	DLEKPMVEKQ	DQSPSLRTGE	EKKDVSISRL	420
	REAFSLRHTT	ENKPHSPKTP	EPRRSP LGQK	RGMLSSSTSG	AISDKGVLRP	QKEAVSSSHG	480
	PSDPTDRAEV	EKDSGHGSTS	VDSEGF SIPD	TGSHCSSEYA	ASSPGDRGSQ	EHVDSQEKAP	540
	ETDDSFSDVD	CHSNQEDTGC	KFRVLPQPTN	LATPNTKRFK	KEEILSSSDI	CQKLVNTQDM	600
25	SASQVDVAVK	INKKVPLDF	SMSSLAKRIK	QLHHEAQOSE	GEQNYRK FRA	KICPGENQAA	660
	EDELRLKEISK	TMFAEMEIIG	QFNLGFIITK	LNEDIFIVDQ	HATDEKYNFE	MLQHTV LQG	720
	QRLIAPQTLN	LTAVNEAVLI	ENLEIFRKNG	FDFVIDENAP	VTERAKLISL	PTSKNWTFGP	780
	QDVDELIFML	SDSPGV MCRP	SRVKQMFASR	ACRKSVMIGT	ALNTSEMKKL	ITHMGEMDHP	840
	WNCPHGRPTM	RHIANLGVIS	QN				862

30

PMS2 (human cDNA) (SEQ ID NO:17)

	cgaggcggat	cggtgtgtgc	atccatggag	cgagctgaga	gctcgagtac	agaacctgct	60
	aaggccatca	aacctattga	tcggaagtca	gtccatcaga	tttgctctgg	gcaggtggta	120
	ctgagctctaa	gcactgcggt	aaaggagtta	gtagaaaaca	gtctggatgc	tggtgccact	180
35	aatattgatc	taaagcttaa	ggactatgga	gtggatctta	ttgaagtttc	agacaatgga	240
	tgtggggtg	aagaagaaaa	cttcgaaggc	ttaactctga	aacatcacac	atctaagatt	300
	caagagtttg	ccgacctaac	tcaggttgaa	acttttggtc	ttcgggggga	agctctgagc	360
	tcactttgtg	cactgagcga	tgtcaccatt	tctacctgcc	acgcatcggc	gaaggttggga	420
	actcgactga	tgtttgatca	caatgggaaa	attatccaga	aaacccctta	ccccgccttc	480
40	agagggacca	cagtcagcgt	gcagcagtta	ttttccacac	tacctgtgcg	ccataaggaa	540
	tttcaaagga	atattaagaa	ggagtatgcc	aaaatgggtc	aggtcttaca	tgcatactgt	600
	atcatttcag	caggcatccg	tgtaagtgcg	accaatcagc	ttggacaagg	aaaacgacag	660
	cctgtggtat	gcacaggtgg	aagccccagc	ataaaggaaa	atatcggtc	tgtgtttggg	720
	cagaagcagt	tgcaaagcct	cattcctttt	gttcagctgc	cccctagtga	ctccgtgtgt	780
45	gaagagtacg	gtttgagctg	ttcggatgct	ctgcataatc	ttttttacat	ctcaggtttc	840
	atttcacaat	gcacgcagtg	agttggaagg	agttcaacag	acagacagtt	tttctttatc	900
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	tataatcgac	accagtatcc	atttgttgtt	cttaacattt	ctgttgattc	agaatgcgtt	1020
	gatatcaatg	ttactccaga	taaaaggcaa	attttgctac	aagaggaaaa	gcttttgttg	1080
50	gcagttttta	agacctcttt	gataggaatg	tttgatagt	atgtcaacaa	gctaaatgtc	1140
	agtcagcagc	cactgctgga	tgttgaaagg	aacttaataa	aaatgcatgc	agcggatttg	1200
	gaaaagccca	tggtagaaaa	gcaggatcaa	tccccctcat	taaggactgg	agaagaaaaa	1260
	aaagacgtgt	ccatttccag	actgcgagag	gccttttctc	ttcgtcacac	aacagagaac	1320
	aagcctcaca	gccccaaagac	tccagaacca	agaaggagcc	ctctaggaca	gaaaaggggt	1380
55	atgctgtctt	ctagcacttc	aggtgccatc	tctgacaaag	gcgtcctgag	acctcagaaa	1440
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	gactcggggc	acggcagcac	ttccgtggat	tctgaggggt	tcagcatccc	agacacgggc	1560
	agtcactgca	gcagcgagta	tgcggccagc	tccccagggg	acagggggtc	gcaggaacat	1620
	gtggactctc	aggagaaagc	gcctgaaact	gacgactctt	tttcagatgt	ggactgccat	1680
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	accccaaaaa	caaagcgttt	taaaaaagaa	gaaattcttt	ccagttctga	cattttgtcaa	1800
	aagttagtaa	atactcagga	catgtcagcc	tctcaggttg	atgtagctgt	gaaaattaat	1860
	aagaaagttg	tgccccctgga	cttttctatg	agttcttttag	ctaaacgaat	aaagcagtta	1920
	catcatgaag	cacagcaaa	tgaaggggaa	cagaattaca	ggaagtttag	ggcaaaagatt	1980

	tgtcctggag	aaaatcaagc	agccgaagat	gaactaagaa	aagagataag	taaaacgatg	2040
	tttgcagaaa	tggaaatcat	tggtcagttt	aacctgggat	ttataataac	caaactgaat	2100
	gaggatatct	tcatagtggg	ccagcatgcc	acggacgaga	agtataactt	cgagatgctg	2160
5	cagcagcaca	ccgtgctcca	ggggcagagg	ctcatagcac	ctcagactct	caacttaact	2220
	gctgttaatg	aagctgttct	gatagaaaat	ctggaaaatat	ttagaaaagaa	tggttttgat	2280
	tttgttatcg	atgaaaatgc	tccagtcact	gaaagggcta	aactgatttc	cttgccaact	2340
	a-ataaaaaact	ggaccttcgg	acccacggac	gtcgatgaac	tgatcttcat	gctgagcgac	2400
	agccctgggg	tcatgtgccg	gccttcccga	gtcaagcaga	tggttgccctc	cagagcctgc	2460
10	cggaagtcgg	tgatgattgg	gactgctctt	aacacaagcg	agatgaagaa	actgatcacc	2520
	cacatggggg	agatggacca	cccctggaac	tgtcccatatg	gaaggccaac	catgagacac	2580
	atcgccaacc	tgggtgtcat	ttctcagaac	tgaccgtagt	cactgtatgg	aataattggt	2640
	tttatcgtag	atttttatgt	tttgaaagac	agagtcttca	ctaacctttt	ttgttttaaa	2700
	atgaaacctg	ctacttaaaa	aaaatacaca	tcacacccat	ttaaaagtga	tcttgagaac	2760
	cttttcaaac	c					2771

15

PMS1 (human) (SEQ ID NO:18)

	MKQLPAATVR	LLSSSQIITS	VVSUVKELIE	NSLDAGATSV	DVKLENYGFD	KIEVRDNGEG	60
	IKAVDAPVMA	MKYITSKINS	HEDLENLTYY	GFRGEALGSI	CCIAEVLITT	RTAADNFSTQ	120
20	YVLDGSGHIL	SQKPSHLGQG	TTVTALRLFK	NLPVRKQFYS	TAKKCKDEIK	KIQDLLMSFG	180
	ILKPDRLRIV	VHNKAVIWQK	SRVSDHKMAL	MSVLGTAVMN	NMESFQYHSE	ESQIYLSGFL	240
	PKCDADHSFT	SLSTPERSFI	FINSRPVHQK	DILKLIRHHY	NLKCLKESTR	LYPVFFLKID	300
	VPTADVDVNL	TPDKSQVLLQ	NKESVLIALE	NLMTTCYGPL	PSTNSYENNK	TDVSAADIVL	360
	SKTAETDVL	NKVESSGKNY	SNVDTSVIPF	QNDMHNDESG	KNTDDCLNHQ	ISIGDFGYGH	420
25	CSSEISNIDK	NTKNAFQDIS	MSNVSWENSQ	TEYSKTCFIS	SVKHTQSENG	NKDHIDESGE	480
	NEEEAGLENS	SEISADEWSR	GNILKNSVGE	NIEPVKILVP	EKSLPCKVSN	NNYPIPEQMN	540
	LNEDSCNKK	NVIDNKGSKV	TAYDLLSNRV	IKKPMSASAL	FVQDHRPQFL	IENPKTSLED	600
	ATLQIEELWK	TLSEEEKLKY	EKATKDLER	YNSQMKRAIE	QESQMSLKDG	RKKIKPTSAS	660
	NLAQKHKLKT	SLSNQPKLDE	LLQSQIEKRR	SONIKMVQIP	FSMKNLKINF	KKQNKVDLEE	720
30	KDEPCLIHNL	RFPDAWLMTS	KTEVMLLNPY	RVEEALLFKR	LLENHKLPAE	PLEKPIMLTE	780
	SLFNGSHYLD	VLYKMTADDQ	RYSGSTYLS	PRLTANGFKI	KLIPGVSITE	NYLEIEGMAN	840
	CLPFYGVADL	KEILNAILNR	NAKEVYECRP	RKVISYLEGE	AVRLSRQLPM	YLSKEDIQDI	900
	IYRMKHQFGN	EIKECVHGRP	FFHHLTYLPE	TT			932

PMS1 (human) (SEQ ID NO:19)

35	ggcagcagtg	gctgcttgcg	gctagtggaat	ggtaattgcc	tgccctcgccg	tagcagcaag	60
	ctgctctgtt	aaaagcgaaa	atgaaacaat	tgccctgcggc	aacagttcga	ctcctttcaa	120
	gtttctcagat	catcacttcg	gtggtcagtg	ttgtaaaaaga	gcttattgaa	aactccttgg	180
	atgctggtgc	cacaagcgta	gatgttaaac	tggaagaacta	tggtattgat	aaaattgagg	240
40	tgcgagataa	cggggagggg	atcaaggctg	ttgatgcacc	tgtaatggca	atgaagtact	300
	acacctcaaa	aataaatagt	catgaagatc	ttgaaaattt	gacaacttac	ggttttcggtg	360
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	atctcctcat	gagctttgg	atccttaaac	ctgacttaag	gattgtcttt	gtacataaca	660
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	agttaatccg	acatcattac	aatctgaaat	gcctaaagga	atctactcgt	ttgtatcctg	960
	ttttctttct	gaaaatcgat	gttcctacag	ctgatgttga	tgtaaattta	acaccagata	1020
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	cgacttgta	tggaaccatta	cctagtacaa	attcttatga	aaataataaa	acagatgttt	1140
55	ccgcagctga	catcgttctt	agtaaaacag	cagaaacaga	tggtgctttt	aataaagtgg	1200
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	tgcataatga	tgaatctgga	aaaaacactg	atgattgttt	aaatcaccag	ataagtattg	1320
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	ctgcagatga	gtggagcagg	ggaaatatac	ttaaaaattc	agtgggagag	aatattgaac	1620
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	caatccctga	acaaatgaat	cttaatgaag	attcatgtaa	caaaaaatca	aatgtaatag	1740
	ataataaatc	tggaagaagt	acagcttatg	atttacttag	caatcgagta	atcaagaaac	1800

	ccatgtcagc	aagtgtcttt	tttgttcaag	atcatcgccc	tcagttttctc	atagaaaatc	1860
	ctaagactag	tttagaggat	gcaacactac	aaattgaaga	actgtggaag	acattgagtg	1920
	aagaggaaaa	actgaaatat	gaagagaagg	ctactaaaga	cttgggaacga	tacaatagtc	1980
5	aaatgaagag	agccattgaa	caggagtcac	aaatgtcact	aaaagatggc	agaaaaaaga	2040
	taaaaccac	cagcgcatgg	aattttggccc	agaagcacia	gttaaaaaacc	tcattatcta	2100
	atcaaccaaa	acttgatgaa	ctccttcagt	cccaaattga	aaaaagaagg	agtcaaaaata	2160
	ttaaaatggt	acagatcccc	ttttctatga	aaaacttaaa	aataaatttt	aagaaacaaa	2220
	acaaagttga	cttagaagag	aaggatgaac	cttgcttgat	ccacaatctc	aggtttcctg	2280
10	atgcatggct	aatgacatcc	aaaacagagg	taatgttatt	aaatccatat	agagtagaag	2340
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	aaatgacagc	agatgaccaa	agatacagtg	gatcaactta	cctgtctgat	cctcgtctta	2520
	cagcgaaatg	tttcaagata	aaattgattc	caggagtttc	aattactgaa	aattacttgg	2580
15	aaatagaagg	aatggctaata	tgtctcccat	tctatggagt	agcagattta	aaagaaattc	2640
	ttaatgctat	attaaacaga	aatgcaaagg	aagtttatga	atgtagacct	cgcaaagtga	2700
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	aagaggacat	ccaagacatt	atctacagaa	tgaagcacca	gtttggaaat	gaaattaaag	2820
	agtgtgttca	tggtcgccca	ttttttcatt	atttaacctt	tcttccagaa	actacatgat	2880
20	ttaatatgtt	taagaagatt	agttaccatt	gaaattgggt	ctgtcataaa	acagcatgag	2940
	tctggtttta	aattatcttt	gtattatgtg	tcacatgggt	atTTTTTaaa	tgaggattca	3000
	ctgacttggt	tttatattga	aaaaagttcc	acgtattgta	gaaaacgtaa	ataaactaat	3060
	aac						3063

25 MSH2 (human) (SEQ ID NO:20)

	MAVQPKETLQ	LESAAEVGFV	RFFQGMPEKP	TTTVRLFDRG	DFYTAHGEDA	LLAAREVFKT	60
	QGVIKYMGPA	GAKNLQSVVL	SKMNFESFVK	DLLLVRQYRV	EVYKNRAGNK	ASKENDWYLA	120
	YKASPGNLSQ	FEDILFGNND	MSASIGVVVG	KMSAVDQGRQ	VGVGVDSDIQ	RKLGLCEFPD	180
30	NDQFSNLEAL	LIQIGPKECV	LPGETAGDM	GKLRQIIQRG	GILITERKKA	DFSTKDIYQD	240
	LNRLKKGKKG	EQMNSAVLPE	MENQVAVSSL	SAVIKFLLEL	SDDSNFGQFE	LTTDFDSQYM	300
	KLDIAAVRAL	NLFQGSVEDT	TGSQSLAALL	NKCKTPQGQR	LVNQWIKQPL	MDKNRIEERL	360
	NLVEAFVEDA	ELRQTLQEDL	LRRFPDLNRL	AKKFQRQAAN	LQDCYRLYQG	INQLPNVIAQ	420
	LEKHEGKHQK	LLLAVFVTPL	TDLRSDFSKF	QEMIETTLDM	DQVENHEFLV	KPSFDPNLSE	480
35	LREIMNDLEK	KMQSTLISAA	RDLGLDPGKQ	IKLDSSAQFG	YYFRVTCKEE	KVLRNNKNFS	540
	TVDIQKNGVK	FTNSKLTSLN	EEYTKNKTEY	EEAQDAIVKE	IVNISSGYVE	PMQTLNDVLA	600
	QLDAVVSFAH	VSNAGVPVYV	RPAILEKGQG	RIILKASRHA	CVEVQDEIAF	IPNDVYFEKD	660
	KQMFHIITGP	NMGGKSTYIR	QTGVIVLMAQ	IGCFVPCESA	EVSIVDCILA	RVGAGDSQLK	720
	GVSTFMAEML	ETASILRSAT	KDSLIIIDEL	GRGTSTYDGF	GLAWAISEYI	ATKIGAFCMF	780
40	ATHFHELTAL	ANQIPTVNNL	HVTALTTEET	LTMLYQVKKG	VCDQSFGIHV	AELANFPKHV	840
	IECAKQKALE	LEEFQYIGES	QGYDIMEPAA	KKCYLEREQG	EKIIQEFLSK	VKQMPFTEMS	900
	EENITIKLKQ	LKAEVIAKNN	SFVNEIISRI	KVTT			934

MSH2 (human cDNA) (SEQ ID NO:21)

	ggcgggaaac	agcttagtg	gtgtggggc	gcgcattttc	ttcaaccagg	aggtgaggag	60
45	gtttcgacat	ggcgggtgag	ccgaaggaga	cgctgcagtt	ggagagcgcg	gccgaggtcg	120
	gcttcgtgcg	cttctttcag	ggcatgccgg	agaagccgac	caccacagtg	cgctttttcg	180
	accggggcga	cttctatacg	gcgcacggcg	aggacgcgct	gctggccgccc	cgggagggtgt	240
	tcaagaccca	gggggtgatc	aagtacatgg	ggccggcagg	agcaaagaat	ctgcagagtg	300
50	ttgtgcttag	taaaatgaat	tttgaatctt	ttgtaaaaga	tcttcttctg	gttcgtcagt	360
	atagagttga	agttttataag	aatagagctg	gaaataaggc	atccaaggag	aatgattggt	420
	atttggcata	taaggcttct	cctggcaatc	tctctcagtt	tgaagacatt	ctcttttgga	480
	acaatgatata	gtcagcttcc	attggtgttg	tgggtgttaa	aatgtccgca	gttgatggcc	540
	agagacaggt	tggagttggg	tatgtggatt	ccatacagag	gaaactagga	ctgtgtgaat	600
55	tccctgataa	tgatcagttc	tccaatcttg	aggctctcct	catccagatt	ggaccaaagg	660
	aatgtgtttt	accgggagga	gagactgctg	gagacatggg	gaaactgaga	cagataattc	720
	aaagaggagg	aatctctgatc	acagaaagaa	aaaaagctga	cttttccaca	aaagacattt	780
	atcaggacct	caaccgggtg	ttgaaaggca	aaaagggaga	gcagatgaat	agtgtctgat	840
	tgccagaaat	ggagaatcag	gttgacgttt	catcactgtc	tgcggtaat	aagtttttag	900
60	aactcttata	agatgattcc	aactttggac	agtttgaact	gactactttt	gacttcagcc	960
	agtatatgaa	attggatatt	gcagcagtc	gagcccttaa	cctttttcag	ggttctgttg	1020
	aagataccac	tggctctcag	tctctggctg	ccttgctgaa	taagtgtaaa	accctcaag	1080
	gacaaagact	tgtaaaccag	tggattaagc	agcctctcat	ggataagaac	agaatagagg	1140
	agagattgaa	tttagtgga	gctttttag	aagatgcaga	attgaggcag	actttacaag	1200

	aagattttact	tcgtcgattc	ccagatctta	accgacttgc	caagaagttt	caaagacaag	1260
	cagcaaaactt	acaagattgt	taccgactct	atcagggtat	aaatcaacta	cctaattgta	1320
	tacaggctct	ggaaaaacat	gaaggaaaac	accagaaatt	attgttggca	gtttttgtga	1380
5	ctcctcttac	tgatcttcgt	tctgacttct	ccaagtttca	ggaaatgata	gaaacaactt	1440
	tagatatgga	tcagggtgga	aaccatgaat	tccttgtaaa	accttcattt	gatacctaata	1500
	tcagtgaatt	aagagaaata	atgaatgact	tggaaaagaa	gatgcagtca	acattaataa	1560
	gtgcagccag	agatcttggc	ttggaccctg	gcaaacagat	taaactggat	tccagtgcac	1620
	agtttggata	ttactttcgt	gtaacctgta	aggaagaaaa	agtccttcgt	aacaataaaa	1680
10	acttttagtac	tgtagatatc	cagaagaatg	gtgtataaatt	taccaacagc	aaattgactt	1740
	ctttaaatga	agagtatacc	aaaaataaaa	cagaatatga	agaagcccag	gatgccattg	1800
	ttaaagaaat	tgtcaatatt	tcttcaggct	atgtagaacc	aatgcagaca	ctcaatgatg	1860
	tgttagctca	gctagatgct	gttgtcagct	ttgtcacagt	gtcaaatgga	gcacctgttc	1920
	catatgtacg	accagccatt	ttggagaaag	gacaagggaag	aattatatta	aaagcatcca	1980
	ggcatgcttg	tgttgaagtt	caagatgaaa	ttgcatttat	tcctaatagac	gtatactttg	2040
15	aaaaagataa	acagatgttc	cacatcatta	ctggccccaa	tatgggaggt	aaatcaacat	2100
	atattcgaca	aactgggtg	atagtactca	tggcccaaat	tgggtgtttt	gtgccatgtg	2160
	agtcagcaga	agtggtccat	gtggactgca	tcttagcccg	agtaggggtc	ggtgacagtc	2220
	aattgaaagg	agtctccacg	ttcatggctg	aaatgttggg	aactgcttct	atcctcaggt	2280
20	ctgcaaccaa	agattcatta	ataatcatag	atgaattggg	aagaggaact	tctacctacg	2340
	atggatttgg	gttagcatgg	gctatatcag	aatacattgc	aacaaagatt	ggtgcttttt	2400
	gcatgtttgc	aaccattttc	catgaactta	ctgccttggc	caatcagata	ccaactgtta	2460
	ataatctaca	tgtcacagca	ctcaccactg	aagagacctt	aactatgctt	tatcaggtga	2520
	agaaaggtgt	ctgtgatcaa	agttttggga	ttcatgttgc	agagcttgc	aatttcccta	2580
25	agcatgtaat	agagtgtgct	aaacagaaag	ccctggaact	tgaggagttt	cagtatatgt	2640
	gagaatcgca	aggatatgat	atcatggaac	cagcagcaaa	gaagtgcctat	ctggaaagag	2700
	agcaaggtga	aaaaattatt	caggagttcc	tgtccaaggt	gaaacaaatg	ccctttactg	2760
	aatgtcgaga	agaaaacatc	acaataaagt	taaaacagct	aaaagctgaa	gtaatagcaa	2820
	agaataatag	ctttgtaaat	gaaatcattt	cacgaataaa	agttactacg	tgaaaaatcc	2880
30	cagtaatgga	atgaaggtaa	tattgataag	ctattgtctg	taatagtgtt	atattgtttt	2940
	atattaaccc	tttttccata	gtgttaactg	tcagtgccca	tgggctatca	acttaataag	3000
	atatttagta	atattttact	ttgaggacat	tttcaaagat	ttttattttg	aaaaatgaga	3060
	gctgtaactg	aggactgttt	gcaattgaca	taggcaataa	taagtgatgt	gctgaatttt	3120
	ataaataaaa	tcatgtagtt	tgtgg				3145

35 MLH1 (human) (SEQ ID NO:22)

	MSFVAGVIRR	LDETVVNRIA	AGEVIQRPAN	AIKEMIENCL	DAKSTSIQVI	VKEGGLKLIQ	60
	IQDNGTGIRK	EDLDIVCERF	TTSKLQSFED	LASISTYGFR	GEALASISHV	AHVTITTKTA	120
	DGKCAYRASV	SDGKLKAPPK	PCAGNQGTQI	TVEDLFYNIA	TRRKALKNPS	EEYGKILEVV	180
40	GRYSVHNAGI	SFSVKKQGET	VADVRTLPA	STVDNIRSIF	GNAVSRRELIE	IGCEDKTLAF	240
	KMNGYISNAN	YSVKKCIFLL	FINHRLVEST	SLRKAJETVY	AAYLPKNTHP	FLYLSLEISP	300
	QNVVDNVHPT	KHEVHFLHEE	SILERVQQHI	ESKLGSNSS	RMFTQTLLP	GLAGPSGEMV	360
	KSTTSLTSSS	TSGSSDKVYA	HQMVRTDSRE	QKLDAFLQPL	SKPLSSQPQA	IVTEDKTDIS	420
	SGRARQQDEE	MLELPAPAEV	AAKNQSLEGD	TTKGTSEMSE	KRGPTSSNPR	KRHREDS DVE	480
45	MVEDDSRKEM	TAACP RRRI	INLT SVLSIQ	EEINEQGHEV	LREMLHNHSF	VGC VNPQWAL	540
	AQHQT KLYLL	NTTKLSEELF	YQILIYDFAN	FGVLR LSEPA	PLFDLAMLAL	DSPESGWTEE	600
	DGPKEGLAEY	IVEFLKKKAE	MLADYFSLEI	DEEGLNIGLP	LLIDNYVPPL	EGLPIFILRL	660
	ATEVNWDEEK	ECFESLSKEC	AMFY SIRQY	ISEESTLSGQ	QSEVPGSIPN	SWKWTVEHIV	720
	YKALRSHILP	PKHFTEDGNI	LQLANLPDLY	KVFERC			756

50 MLH1 (human) (SEQ ID NO:23)

	cttggctctt	ctggcgccaa	aatgtcggtc	gtggcagggg	ttattcggcg	gctggacgag	60
	acagtgggtg	accgcatcgc	ggcgggggaa	gttatccagc	ggccagctaa	tgctatcaaa	120
	gagatgattg	agaactgttt	agatgcaaaa	tccacaagta	ttcaagtgat	tgtaaagag	180
55	ggaggcctga	agttgattca	gatccaagac	aatggcaccg	ggatcaggaa	agaagatctg	240
	gatattgtat	gtgaaagggt	cactactagt	aaactgcagt	cctttgagga	tttagccagt	300
	atttctacct	atggctttcg	agggtgaggct	ttggccagca	taagccatgt	ggctcatgtt	360
	actattacaa	cgaaaacagc	tgatggaaag	tgtgcataca	gagcaagtta	ctcagatgga	420
	aaactgaaag	cccctcctaa	accatgtgct	ggcaatcaag	ggaccagat	cacgggtggag	480
60	gacctttttt	acaacatagc	cacgaggaga	aaagctttta	aaaatccaag	tgaagaatat	540
	gggaaaattt	tggaaagttg	tggcaggtat	tcagtagaca	atgcaggcat	tagtttctca	600
	gttaaaaaaac	aaggagagac	agtagctgat	gttaggacac	tacccaatgc	ctcaaccgtg	660
	gacaatatct	gctccatctt	tggaaatgct	gttagtcgag	aactgataga	aattggatgt	720
	gaggataaaa	ccctagcctt	caaaatgaat	ggttacatat	ccaatgcaaa	ctactcagt	780

	aagaagtgca	tcttcttact	cttcatcaac	catcgtctgg	tagaatcaac	ttccttgaga	840
	aaagccatag	aaacagtgtg	tgcagcctat	ttgccccaaa	acacacacccc	attcctgtac	900
	ctcagtttag	aaatcagtc	ccagaatgtg	gatgttaatg	tgcaccccac	aaagcatgaa	960
5	gttcacttcc	tgcacgagga	gagcatcctg	gagcgggtgc	agcagcacat	cgagagcaag	1020
	ctcctgggct	ccaattcctc	caggatgtac	ttcaccacaga	ctttgctacc	aggacttgct	1080
	ggcccctctg	gggagatggt	taaattccaca	acaagtctga	cctcgtcttc	tacttctgga	1140
	agtagtgata	aggtctatgc	ccaccagatg	gttcgtacag	attcccggga	acagaagctt	1200
	gatgcatttc	tgcagcctct	gagcaaacc	ctgtccagtc	agccccaggc	cattgtcaca	1260
10	gaggataaga	cagatatttc	tagtggcagg	gctaggcagc	aagatgagga	gatgcttgaa	1320
	ctcccagccc	ctgctgaagt	ggctgccaaa	aatcagagct	tggaggggga	tacaacaaag	1380
	gggacttcag	aaatgtcaga	gaagagagga	cctacttcca	gcaaccccag	aaagagacat	1440
	cgggaagatt	ctgatgtgga	aatgggtgga	gatgattccc	gaaaggaaat	gactgacat	1500
	tgtacccccc	ggagaaggat	cattaacctc	actagtgttt	tgagtctcca	ggaagaaatt	1560
15	aatgagcagg	gacatgaggt	tctccgggag	atgttgcata	accactcctt	cgtgggctgt	1620
	gtgaatcctc	agtgggcctt	ggcacagcat	caaaccaagt	tataccttct	caacaccacc	1680
	aagcttagtg	aagaactgtt	ctaccagata	ctcattttatg	attttgccaa	ttttggtgtt	1740
	ctcaggttat	cggagccagc	accgctcttt	gaccttgcca	tgcttgccct	agatagtcca	1800
	gagagtggct	ggacagagga	agatggctcc	aaagaaggac	ttgctgaata	cattgttgag	1860
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	gggaacctga	ttggattacc	ccttctgatt	gacaactatg	tgcccccttt	ggagggactg	1980
	cctatcttca	ttcttcgact	agccactgag	gtgaattggg	acgaagaaaa	ggaatgtttt	2040
	gaaagcctca	gtaaagaatg	cgctatgttc	tattccatcc	ggaagcagta	catatctgag	2100
	gagtcgaccc	tctcaggcca	gcagagtga	gtgcctggct	ccattccaaa	ctcctggaag	2160
25	tggactgtgg	aacacattgt	ctataagcc	ttgcgctcac	acattctgcc	tcctaaacat	2220
	ttcacagaag	atggaaatat	cctgcagct	gctaacctgc	ctgatctata	caaagtcttt	2280
	gagaggtgtt	aaatatggtt	atttatgcac	tgtgggatgt	gttcttcttt	ctctgtattc	2340
	cgatacaaag	tgttgatca	aagtgtgata	tacaaagtgt	accaacataa	gtgttggtag	2400
	cacttaagac	ttatacttgc	cttctgatag	tattccttta	tacacagtgg	attgattata	2460
30	aataaataga	tgtgtcttaa	cata				2484

hPMS2-134 (human) (SEQ ID NO:24)

	MERAESSSTE	PAKAIKPIDR	KSVHQICSGQ	VVLSLSTAVK	ELVENS LDAG	ATNIDLKLKD	60
	YGVDLIEVSD	NGCGVEEENF	EGLTLKHHTS	KIQEFADLTQ	VETFGFRGEA	LSSLCALSDV	120
35	TISTCHASAK	VG					133

hPMS2-134 (human cDNA) (SEQ ID NO:25)

	cgaggcggat	cgggtgttgc	atccatggag	cgagctgaga	gctcgagtac	agaacctgct	60
	aaggccatca	aacctattga	tcggaagtca	gtccatcaga	tttgctctgg	gcagggtgga	120
40	ctgagtctaa	gcactgcggt	aaaggagtta	gtagaaaaca	gtctggatgc	tggtgccact	180
	aatattgatc	taaagcttaa	ggactattga	gtggatctta	ttgaagtttc	agacaatgga	240
	tgtggggtag	aagaagaaaa	cttcgaaggc	ttaactctga	aacatcacac	atctaagatt	300
	caagagtttg	ccgacctaac	tcagggttgaa	acttttggtc	ttcgggggga	agctctgagc	360
	tcactttgtg	cactgagcga	tgccaccatt	tctacctgcc	acgcatcggc	gaaggttgga	420
45	acttga						426

GTBP (human) (SEQ ID NO:26)

	MSRQSTLYSF	FPKSPALSDA	NKASARASRE	GGRAAAAPGA	SPSPGGDAAW	SEAGPGPRPL	60
	ARSASPPKAK	NLNGGLRRSV	APAAPTSCDF	SPGDLVWAKM	EGYPWWPCLV	YNHPFDGTFI	120
	REKKGKSVRVH	VQFFDDSPTR	GWVSKRLLKP	YTGSKSKEAQ	KGGHFYSAPK	EILRAMQRAD	180
50	EALNKDKIKR	LELAVCDEPS	EPEEEEEEMEV	GTTYVTDKSE	EDNEIESEEE	VQPKTQGSRR	240
	SSRQIKKRRV	ISDSESDIGV	SDVEFKPDTK	EEGSSDEISS	GVGDSESEGL	NSPVKVKARR	300
	KRMVTGNGSL	KRKSSRKETP	SATKQATGIS	SETKNTLRAF	SAPQNSSESQA	HVSGGSDSS	360
	RPTVWYHETL	EWLKEEKRRD	EHRRRPDHPD	FDASTLYVPE	DFLNSCTPGM	RKWWQIKSQN	420
	FDLVICYKVG	KFYELYHMDA	LIGVSELGLV	FMKGNWAHSG	FPEIAFGRYS	DSLVQKGYKV	480
55	ARVEQTETPE	MMEARCRKMA	HISKYDRVVR	REICRIITKG	TQYTSVLEGD	PSENYSKYLL	540
	SLKEKEEDSS	GHTRAYGVCF	VDTSLGKFFI	GQFSDDRHC	RFRTLVAHP	PVQVLFKEGN	600
	LSKETKITLK	SSLSCSLQEG	LIPGSQFWD	SKTLRLTLEE	EYFREKLSDG	IGVMLPQVLK	660
	GMTSESDSIG	LTPGEKSELA	LSALGGCVFY	LKKCLIDQEL	LSMANFEEYI	PLSDSTVSTT	720
	RSGAIFTKAY	QRMVLDVAVL	NNLEIFLNGT	NGSTEGTLE	RVDTCHTPFG	KRLKQWLCA	780
60	PLCNHYAIND	RLDAIEDLMV	VPDKISEVVE	LLKKLPDLER	LLSKIHNVGS	PLKSQNHPS	840
	RAIMYEETTY	SKKKIIDFLS	ALEGFKVMCK	IIGIMEEVAD	GFKSKILKQV	ISLQTKNPEG	900

	RFPDLTVELN	RWDTAFDHEK	ARKTGLITPK	AGFDSYDQ	LADIRENEQS	LLEYLEKQRN	960
	RIGCRTIVYW	GIGRNRQLE	IPENFTTRNL	PEEYELKSTK	KGCKRYWTKT	IEKKLANLIN	1020
	AEERDVSLE	DCMRRLFYNF	DKNYKDWQSA	VECIAVLDVL	LCLANYSRGG	DGPMCRPVIL	1080
5	LPEDTPPFLE	LKGSRHPCIT	KTFFGDDFIP	NDILIGCEEE	EQENGKAYCV	LVTGPNMGGK	1140
	STLMRQAGLL	AVMAQMGCYV	PAEVCRLTPI	DRVFTRLGAS	DRIMSGESTF	FVELSETASI	1200
	LMHATAHSLV	LVDELGRGTA	TFDGTAIANA	VVKELAETIK	CRTLFSTHYH	SLVEDYSQNV	1260
	AVRLGHMACM	VENECEDPSQ	ETITFLYKFI	KGACPKYGF	NAARLANLPE	EVIQKGRKA	1320
	REFEKMNQL	RLFREVCLAS	ERSTVDAEAV	HKLLTLIKEL			1360

10 GTBP (human cDNA) (SEQ ID NO:27)

	gcccgcgcggt	agatgcgcggt	cttttaggag	ctccgtccga	cagaacgggt	gggccttgcc	60
	ggctgtcggt	atgtgcgcgac	agagcaccct	gtacagcttc	ttccccaagt	ctccggcgct	120
	gagtgatgcc	aacaaggcct	cggccagggc	ctcacgcgaa	ggcggccgtg	ccgccgctgc	180
15	ccccggggcc	tctccttccc	caggcgggga	tgcggcctgg	agcgaggctg	ggcctggggc	240
	caggcccttg	gcgcgctccg	cgtcaccgcc	caaggcgaag	aacctcaacg	gagggctgcg	300
	gagatcggtg	gcgcctgctg	ccccaccag	ttgtgacttc	tcaccaggag	atttggtttg	360
	ggccaagatg	gaggggttacc	cctggtggcc	ttgtctggtt	tacaaccacc	cctttgatgg	420
	aacattcatc	cgcgagaaa	ggaaatcagt	ccgtgttcat	gtacagtttt	ttgatgacag	480
20	cccaacaagg	ggctgggtta	gcaaaaagct	tttaaagcca	tatacagggt	caaatcaaaa	540
	ggaagcccag	aagggaggtc	atttttacag	tgcaaaagcct	gaaatactga	gagcaatgca	600
	acgtgcagat	gaagccttaa	ataaagacaa	gattaagagg	cttgaattgg	cagtttgtag	660
	tgagccctca	gagccagaag	aggaagaaga	gatggaggta	ggcacaactt	acgtaacaga	720
	taagagtga	gaagataatg	aaattgagag	tgaagaggaa	gtacagccta	agacacaagg	780
25	atctaggcga	agtagccgcc	aaataaaaaa	acgaagggtc	atatcagatt	ctgagagtga	840
	cattgggtgc	tctgatgtgg	aatttaagcc	agacactaag	gaggaaggaa	gcagtgtatga	900
	aataagcagt	ggagtggggg	atagtgagag	tgaaggcctg	aacagccctg	tcaaggttgc	960
	tcaaaagcgg	aagagaatgg	tgactggaaa	tggtctctct	aaaaggaaaa	gctctaggaa	1020
	ggaacgccc	tcagccacca	aacaagcaac	tagcattttca	tcagaaacca	agaatacttt	1080
30	gagagcttcc	tctgcccctc	aaaattctga	atcccaagcc	cacgttagtg	gaggtggtga	1140
	tgacagtagt	cgccctactg	tttggtatca	tgaaacttta	gaatggctta	aggaggaaaa	1200
	gagaagagat	gagcacagga	ggaggcctga	tcaccccgat	tttgatgcac	ctacactcta	1260
	tgtgcctgag	gatttctctca	attcttgtac	tcctgggatg	aggaagtggg	ggcagattaa	1320
	gtctcagaac	tttgatcttg	tcattctgtta	caagggtggg	aaattttatg	agctgtacca	1380
35	catggatgct	cttattggag	tcagtgaact	ggggctggta	ttcatgaaag	gcaactgggc	1440
	ccattctggc	tttcttgaaa	ttgcatttgg	ccgttattca	gattccctgg	tgacagaagg	1500
	ctataaagta	gcacgagtgg	aacagactga	gactccagaa	atgatggagg	cacgatgtag	1560
	aaagatggca	catatatcca	agtatgatag	agtggtgagg	agggagatct	gtaggatcat	1620
	taccaagggt	acacagactt	acagtgtgct	ggaaggatga	ccctctgaga	actacagtaa	1680
40	gtatcttctt	agcctcaaag	aaaaagagga	agattcttct	ggccatactc	gtgcatatgg	1740
	tgtgtgcttt	gttgatactt	caactggaaa	gtttttcata	ggtcagtttt	cagatgatcg	1800
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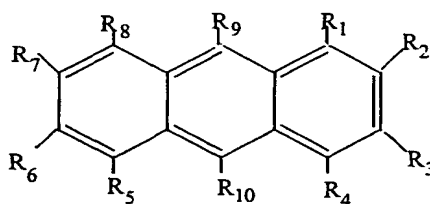
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Each reference cited herein is hereby incorporated by reference in its entirety.

We claim:

1. A method for making a hypermutable cell comprising exposing a cell to an inhibitor of mismatch repair, wherein said inhibitor is an anthracene, an ATPase inhibitor, a nuclease inhibitor, a polymerase inhibitor, or an antisense oligonucleotide that specifically hybridizes to a nucleotide encoding a mismatch repair protein.
2. The method of claim 1 wherein said inhibitor is an anthracene.
3. The method of claim 2 wherein said anthracene has the formula:



wherein R₁-R₁₀ are independently hydrogen, hydroxyl, amino, alkyl, substituted alkyl, alkenyl, substituted alkenyl, alkynyl, substituted alkynyl, O-alkyl, S-alkyl, N-alkyl, O-alkenyl, S-alkenyl, N-alkenyl, O-alkynyl, S-alkynyl, N-alkynyl, aryl, substituted aryl, aryloxy, substituted aryloxy, heteroaryl, substituted heteroaryl, aralkyloxy, arylalkyl, alkylaryl, alkylaryloxy, arylsulfonyl, alkylsulfonyl, alkoxycarbonyl, aryloxycarbonyl, guanidino, carboxy, an alcohol, an amino acid, sulfonate, alkyl sulfonate, CN, NO₂, an aldehyde group, an ester, an ether, a crown ether, a ketone, an organosulfur compound, an organometallic group, a carboxylic acid, an organosilicon or a carbohydrate that optionally contains one or more alkylated hydroxyl groups;

wherein said heteroalkyl, heteroaryl, and substituted heteroaryl contain at least one heteroatom that is oxygen, sulfur, a metal atom, phosphorus, silicon or nitrogen; and

wherein said substituents of said substituted alkyl, substituted alkenyl, substituted alkynyl,

substituted aryl, and substituted heteroaryl are halogen, CN, NO₂, lower alkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, aralkyl, aralkyloxy, guanidino, alkoxycarbonyl, alkoxy, hydroxy, carboxy and amino;

and wherein said amino groups optionally substituted with an acyl group, or 1 to 3 aryl or lower alkyl groups.

4. The method of claim 3 wherein R_5 and R_6 are hydrogen.
5. The method of claim 3 wherein R_1 - R_{10} are independently hydrogen, hydroxyl, alkyl, aryl, arylalkyl, or hydroxyalkyl.
6. The method of claim 3 wherein R_1 - R_{10} are independently hydrogen, hydroxyl, methyl, ethyl, propyl, isopropyl, butyl, isobutyl, phenyl, tolyl, hydroxymethyl, hydroxypropyl, or hydroxybutyl.
7. The method of claim 3 wherein said anthracene is selected from the group consisting of 1,2-dimethylantracene, 9,10-dimethyl anthracene, 7,8-dimethylantracene, 9,10-diphenylantracene, 9,10-dihydroxymethylantracene, 9-hydroxymethyl-10-methylantracene, dimethylantracene-1,2-diol, 9-hydroxymethyl-10-methylantracene-1,2-diol, 9-hydroxymethyl-10-methylantracene-3,4-diol, and 9, 10-di-m-tolylantracene.
8. The method of claim 3 wherein R_3 , R_4 , R_5 , R_6 , R_7 , R_8 , R_9 and R_{10} are hydrogen.
9. The method of claim 3 wherein R_1 , R_2 , R_3 , R_4 , R_5 , R_6 , R_7 and R_8 are hydrogen.
10. The method of claim 3 wherein R_1 , R_2 , R_3 , R_4 , R_5 , R_6 , R_7 and R_8 are hydrogen.
11. The method of claim 3 wherein R_1 , R_2 , R_3 , R_4 , R_5 , R_6 , R_9 and R_{10} are hydrogen.
12. The method of claim 3 wherein R_1 , R_2 , R_3 , R_4 , R_5 , R_6 , R_7 and R_8 are hydrogen.
13. The method of claim 3 wherein R_1 , R_2 , R_3 , R_4 , R_5 , R_6 , R_7 , R_8 and R_{10} are hydrogen.
14. The method of claim 1 wherein said ATPase inhibitor is nonhydrolyzable forms of ATP such as AMP-PNP.
15. The method of claim 1 wherein said a nuclease inhibitor is an analog of N-

Ethylmaleimide, a heterodimeric adenine-chain-acridine compounds, or a quinilone such as Heliquinomycin.

16. The method of claim 1 wherein said polymerase inhibitor is an analog of aphidicolin, 1-(2'-Deoxy-2'-fluoro-beta-L-arabinofuranosyl)-5-methyluracil (L-FMAU) or 2',3'-dideoxyribonucleoside 5'-triphosphates.

17. The method of claim 1 wherein said antisense oligonucleotide comprises about 15 consecutive nucleotides that are complementary to the coding strand of a mismatch repair protein, wherein said antisense oligonucleotide specifically binds to said coding strand of said mismatch repair protein under physiological conditions and inhibits mismatch repair activity of said mismatch repair protein.

18. The method of claim 17 wherein said antisense oligonucleotide specifically binds to a regulatory portion on said coding strand of said mismatch repair protein.

19. The method of claim 17 wherein said antisense oligonucleotide is directed against the first six codons of a MMR gene message.

20. The method of claim 1 wherein said inhibitor of mismatch repair is introduced into a growth medium of a eukaryotic cell *in vitro*.

21. The method of claim 1 wherein said inhibitor of mismatch repair is introduced into a growth medium of a prokaryotic cell *in vitro*.

22. The method of claim 1 wherein said inhibitor of mismatch repair is introduced into a growth medium of a plant.

23. A method for generating a mutation in a gene of interest comprising exposing a cell comprising said gene of interest to a chemical mismatch repair inhibitor and testing said cell to determine whether said gene of interest comprises a mutation.

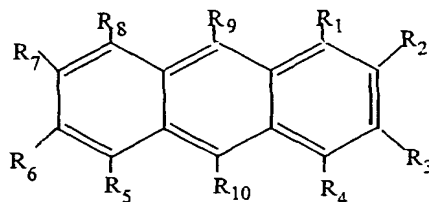
24. The method of claim 23 wherein said testing comprises analyzing a polynucleotide sequence of said gene of interest.
25. The method of claim 23 wherein said testing comprises analyzing a protein encoded by said gene of interest.
26. The method of claim 23 wherein said testing comprises analyzing the phenotype of said cell.
27. The method of claim 23 wherein said cell is a mammalian cell, and wherein said mammalian cell is made mismatch repair defective by exposing said mammalian cell to an inhibitor of mismatch repair.
28. The method of claim 27 further comprising removing the chemical inhibitor of mismatch repair after determining that said gene of interest comprises a mutation.
29. The method of claim 27 wherein said testing comprises analyzing a polynucleotide sequence of said gene of interest.
30. The method of claim 27 wherein said testing comprises analyzing a protein encoded by said gene of interest.
31. The method of claim 27 wherein said testing comprises analyzing the phenotype of said cell.
32. A method for generating a mutation in a gene of interest comprising exposing an animal to a chemical inhibitor of mismatch repair and testing said animal to determine whether the gene of interest comprises a mutation.
33. The method of claim 32 wherein said animal is a mammal.

34. The method of claim 32 wherein said testing comprises analyzing a polynucleotide sequence of said gene of interest.
35. The method of claim 32 wherein said testing comprises analyzing a protein encoded by said gene of interest.
36. The method of claim 32 wherein said testing comprises analyzing the phenotype of said cell.
37. The method of claim 33 wherein said mammal is made mismatch repair defective by exposing said mammal to an inhibitor of mismatch repair.
38. The method of claim 37 further comprising removing said inhibitor of mismatch repair after determining that said gene of interest comprises a mutation.
39. A hypermutable transgenic mammal made by the method of claim 33.
40. A method for generating a mismatch repair defective plant comprising exposing said plant to an inhibitor of mismatch repair.
41. A method for generating a mutation in a gene of interest comprising growing a plant comprising said gene of interest, exposing said plant to an inhibitor of mismatch repair, and testing said plant to determine whether said gene of interest comprises a mutation.
42. The method of claim 41 wherein said testing comprises analyzing a polynucleotide sequence of said gene of interest.
43. The method of claim 41 wherein said testing comprises analyzing a protein encoded by said gene of interest.
44. The method of claim 41 wherein said testing comprises analyzing the phenotype of

said plant.

45. The method of claim 41 wherein said plant is made mismatch repair defective by exposing said plant to an inhibitor of mismatch repair.
46. A hypermutable plant made by the method of claim 40.
47. The plant of claim 46 wherein said plant is monocot.
48. The plant of claim 46 wherein said plant is dicot.
49. A method for screening for chemical inhibitors of mismatch repair comprising exposing an organism to a candidate compound and screening the DNA of said organism for microsatellite instability.
50. The method of claim 49 wherein said organism is a mammal.
51. The method of claim 49 wherein said organism is a microbe.
52. The method of claim 49 wherein said organism is a plant.
53. The method of claim 49 wherein said screening comprises monitoring endogenous microsatellites.
54. The method of claim 49 wherein said screening comprises the use of reporter expression genes, wherein said reporter expression genes comprise polynucleotide repeats within a coding region of said reporter gene.
55. The method of claim 54 wherein said reporter gene is β -glucuronidase.
56. A method for blocking mismatch repair activity *in vivo* comprising exposing a cell to an anthracene compound.

57. The method of claim 56 wherein said anthracene comprises the formula:



wherein R_1 - R_{10} are independently hydrogen, hydroxyl, amino, alkyl, substituted alkyl, alkenyl, substituted alkenyl, alkynyl, substituted alkynyl, O-alkyl, S-alkyl, N-alkyl, O-alkenyl, S-alkenyl, N-alkenyl, O-alkynyl, S-alkynyl, N-alkynyl, aryl, substituted aryl, aryloxy, substituted aryloxy, heteroaryl, substituted heteroaryl, aralkyloxy, arylalkyl, alkylaryl, alkylaryloxy, arylsulfonyl, alkylsulfonyl, alkoxycarbonyl, aryloxycarbonyl, guanidino, carboxy, an alcohol, an amino acid, sulfonate, alkyl sulfonate, CN, NO_2 , an aldehyde group, an ester, an ether, a crown ether, a ketone, an organosulfur compound, an organometallic group, a carboxylic acid, an organosilicon or a carbohydrate that optionally contains one or more alkylated hydroxyl groups;

wherein said heteroalkyl, heteroaryl, and substituted heteroaryl contain at least one heteroatom that is oxygen, sulfur, a metal atom, phosphorus, silicon or nitrogen; and

wherein said substituents of said substituted alkyl, substituted alkenyl, substituted alkynyl,

substituted aryl, and substituted heteroaryl are halogen, CN, NO_2 , lower alkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, aralkyl, aralkyloxy, guanidino, alkoxycarbonyl, alkoxy, hydroxy, carboxy and amino;

and wherein said amino groups optionally substituted with an acyl group, or 1 to 3 aryl or lower alkyl groups.

58. The method of claim 57 wherein R_5 and R_6 are hydrogen.

59. The method of claim 57 wherein R_1 - R_{10} are independently hydrogen, hydroxyl, alkyl, aryl, arylalkyl, or hydroxyalkyl.

60. The method of claim 57 wherein R_1 - R_{10} are independently hydrogen, hydroxyl, methyl, ethyl, propyl, isopropyl, butyl, isobutyl, phenyl, tolyl, hydroxymethyl, hydroxypropyl, or hydroxybutyl.
61. The method of claim 57 wherein said anthracene is selected from the group consisting of 1,2-dimethylantracene, 9,10-dimethyl anthracene, 7,8-dimethylantracene, 9,10-diphenylantracene, 9,10-dihydroxymethylantracene, 9-hydroxymethyl-10-methylantracene, dimethylantracene-1,2-diol, 9-hydroxymethyl-10-methylantracene-1,2-diol, 9-hydroxymethyl-10-methylantracene-3,4-diol, and 9, 10-di-m-tolyantracene.
 R_3 , R_4 ,
62. The method of claim 57 wherein R_3 , R_4 , R_5 , R_6 , R_7 , R_8 , R_9 and R_{10} are hydrogen.
63. The method of claim 57 wherein R_1 , R_2 , R_3 , R_4 , R_5 , R_6 , R_7 and R_8 are hydrogen.
64. The method of claim 57 wherein R_1 , R_2 , R_3 , R_4 , R_5 , R_6 , R_7 and R_8 are hydrogen.
65. The method of claim 57 wherein R_1 , R_2 , R_3 , R_4 , R_5 , R_6 , R_9 and R_{10} are hydrogen.
66. The method of claim 57 wherein R_1 , R_2 , R_3 , R_4 , R_5 , R_6 , R_7 and R_8 are hydrogen.
67. The method of claim 57 wherein R_1 , R_2 , R_3 , R_4 , R_5 , R_6 , R_7 , R_8 and R_{10} are hydrogen.
68. The method of claim 23 further comprising exposing said cell to a mutagen.
69. The method of claim 32 further comprising exposing said animal to a mutagen.
70. The method of claim 68 or 69 wherein said mutagen is selected from the group consisting of N-methyl-N'-nitro-N-nitrosoguanidine, methane sulfonate, dimethyl sulfonate, O-6-methyl benzadine, ethyl methanesulfonate, methylnitrosourea, and ethylnitrosourea.

71. The method of claim 49 wherein the chemical is a MMR inhibitor wherein it induces microsatellite instability in MMR proficient cells but does not induce enhanced microsatellite instability in MMR deficient cells.

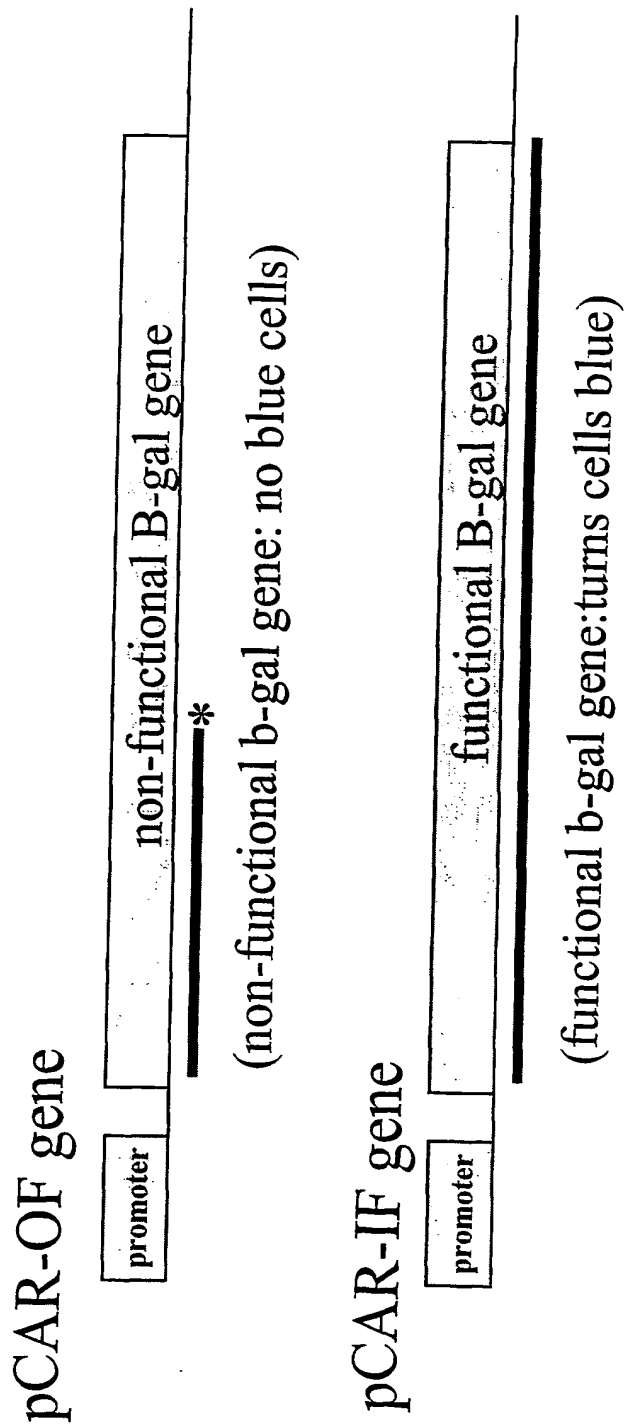


FIGURE 1. Engineered genes used to measure the *in vivo* gene altering capability of chemical induced defective mismatch repair. In MMR defective cells, the non-functional β -gal gene is altered to produce a functional protein that can turn cells blue in the presence of X-gal substrate.

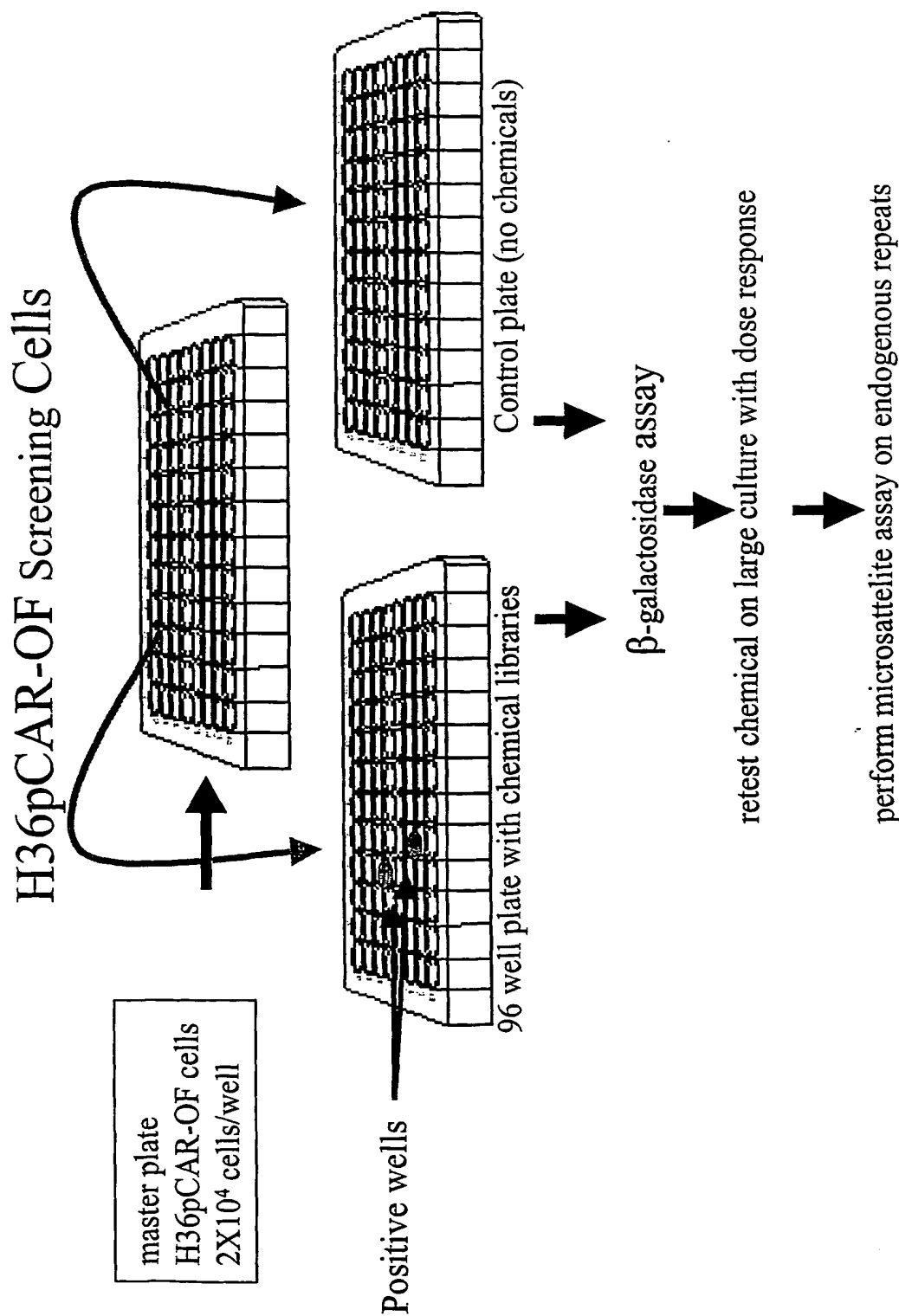


Figure 2: Screening method for identifying mismatch repair blocking chemicals. The assay employs the use of H36pCAR-OF cells which constitutively express the nonfunctional β-galactosidase pCAR-OF gene. Twenty thousand cells are plated in 100 μls of growth medium in a 96-well master plate 50 μls of cells (ten thousand cells) are then replated into duplicate wells, one containing chemicals, the other control medium to account for background. Cells are grown for 14 days, lysed and measured for β-galactosidase activity using CPRG substrate buffer. Wells are measured for activity by spectrophotometry at an OD of 576nm. Chemicals producing positive activity are then retested on larger H36pCAR-OF cultures at different doses. Cultures are measured for β-galactosidase and stability of endogenous microsatellite repeats.

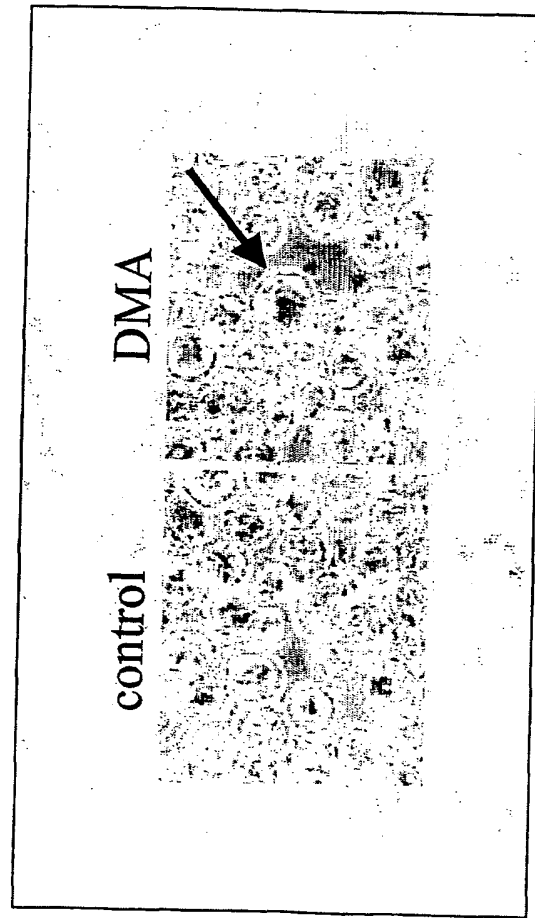


Figure 3. DMA produces b-gal positive H36pCAR-OF cells. H36pCAR-OF cells Grown in the presence of DMA generated functional β -gal producing reporter Cells due to alteration of the polyA repeat contained within the N-terminus of the construct. The Arrow indicates β -gal positive cells. Approximately 3% of cells were positive for β -gal.

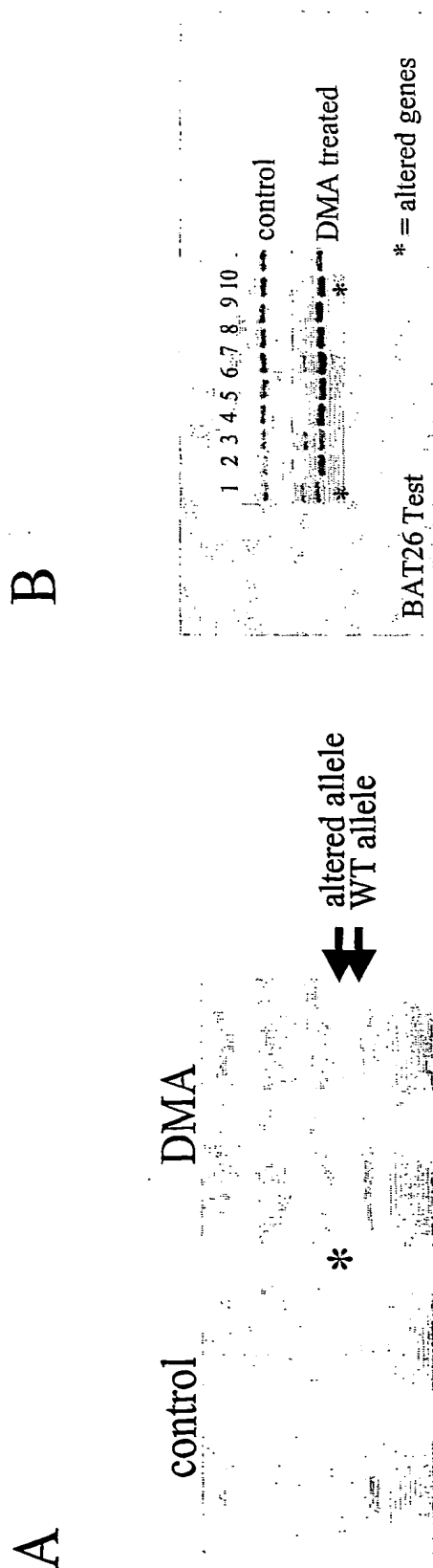


FIGURE 4. Shifting of endogenous microsatellites in human cells induced by DMA in human 293 cells. Cells were cultured in the presence of DMA for 14-17 days. Genomic DNA was isolated and BAT26 microsatellites were analyzed by PCR and gel electrophoresis. (A) Markers were analyzed by PCR using total genomic DNA from 40 samples of treated and untreated cells. Bottom band is the product with the expected wild type (WT) allele size. The asterisk indicates the presence of a new allele in cells treated with DMA. No new alleles were observed in control cells. (B) BAT26 markers from DMA-treated and untreated cells were amplified and cloned into T-tailed vectors. Recombinant clones were then reamplified using BAT26 primers and run on 4% agarose gels and stained with ethidium bromide. Shown is a representative sampling of clones whereby clones with altered molecular weights were observed in DMA treated cells (bottom panel) but not in control cells (top panel). The asterisk indicates markers with altered molecular weight.

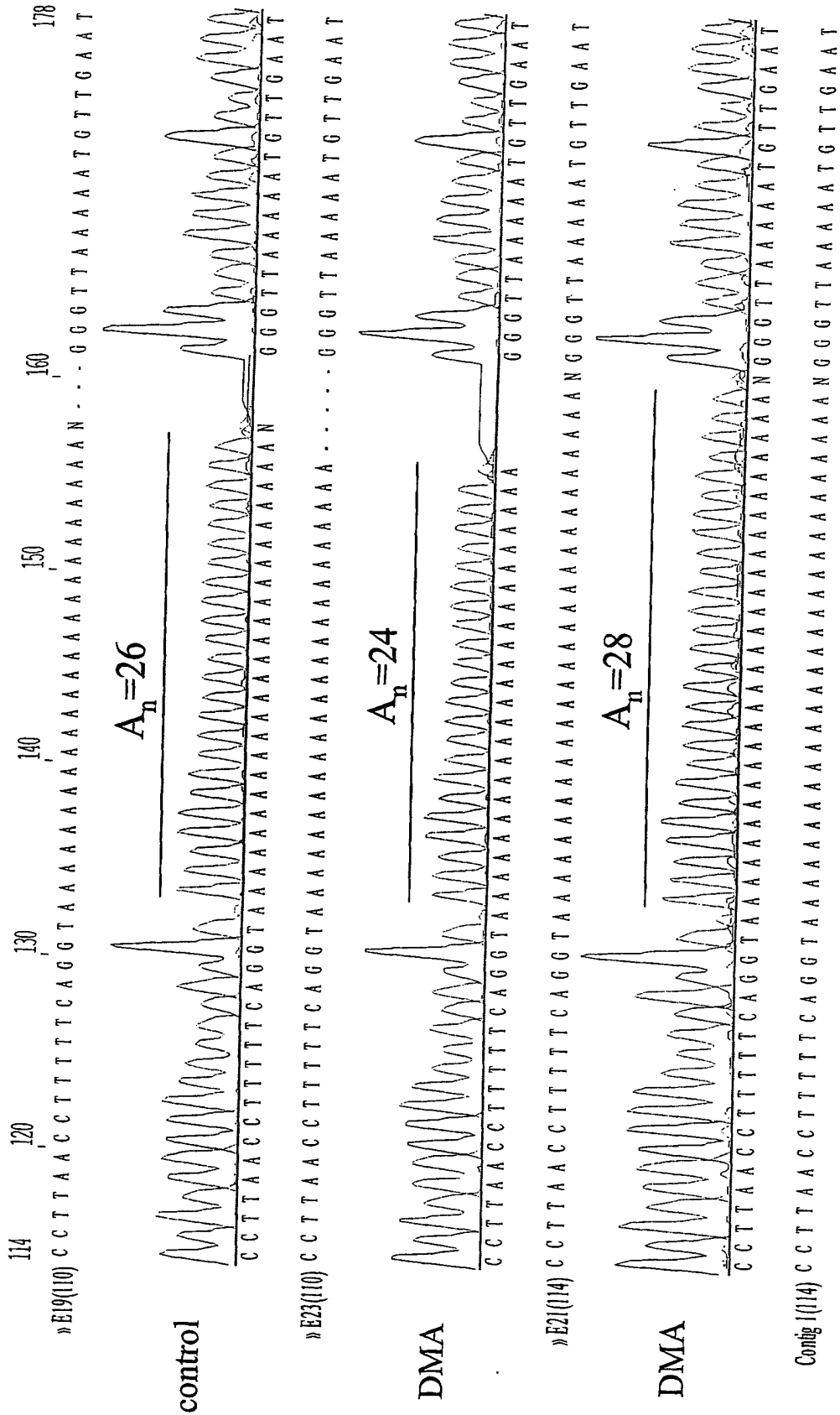
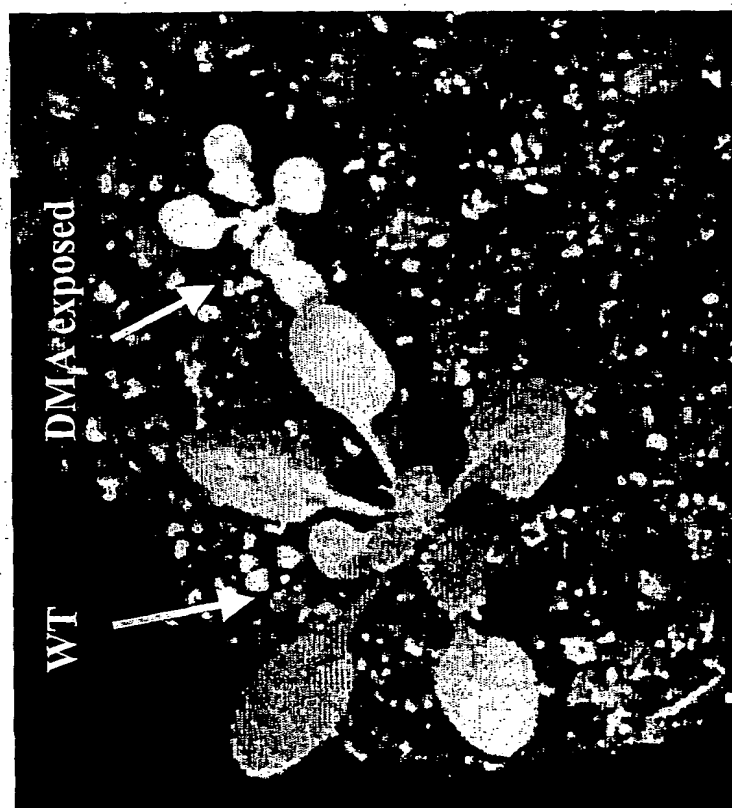


Figure 5. Sequence analysis of recombinant clones containing the BAT26 markers shows alterations within the endogenous polyA repeats in 293 cells treated with 250µm DMA but not in markers obtained from control cells (top sequence). Shown is a sequence alignment from 3 clones. Sequence was aligned using Vector NTI software.



17 day old plants

Figure 6. Chemical inhibitors of MMR blocks spell check process leading to genetic alterations and new output traits. Shown here are offspring from control (WT) or DMA exposed *Arabidopsis thaliana* plants grown in standard soil conditions for 17 days. Six percent of the offspring from DMA treated plants had the small light green appearance. No plants with altered phenotypes were observed in the 150 plants from control or EMS mutagenized offspring. These data demonstrate the ability to generate a high rate of genetic alteration in host organisms by blockade of MMR *in vivo* that can lead to new output traits.

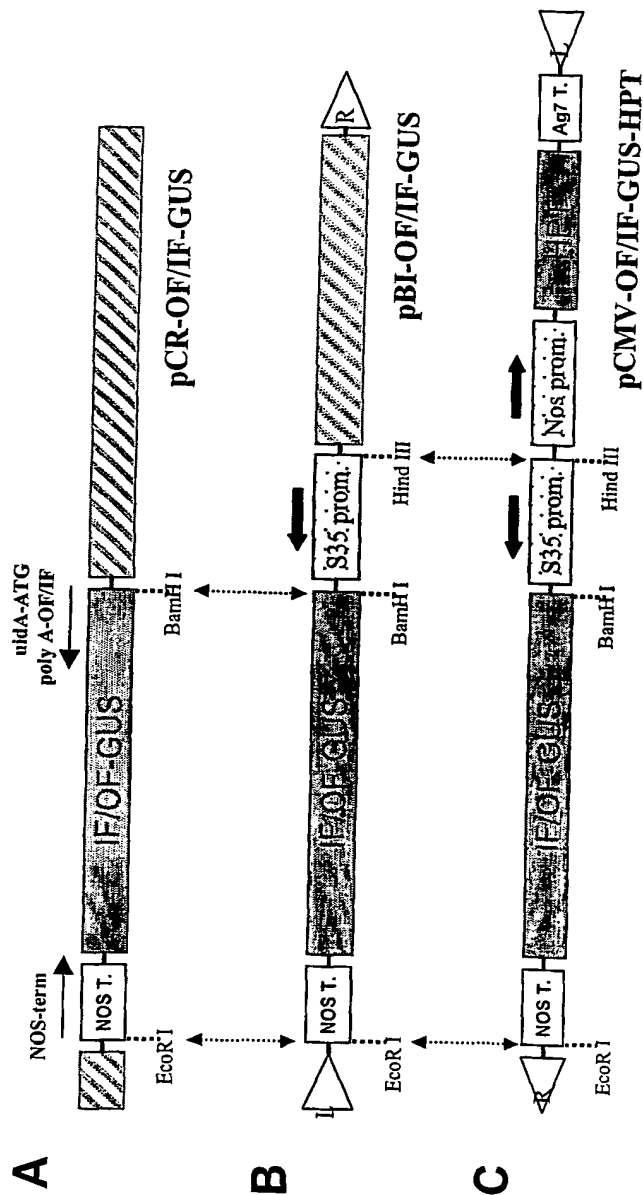
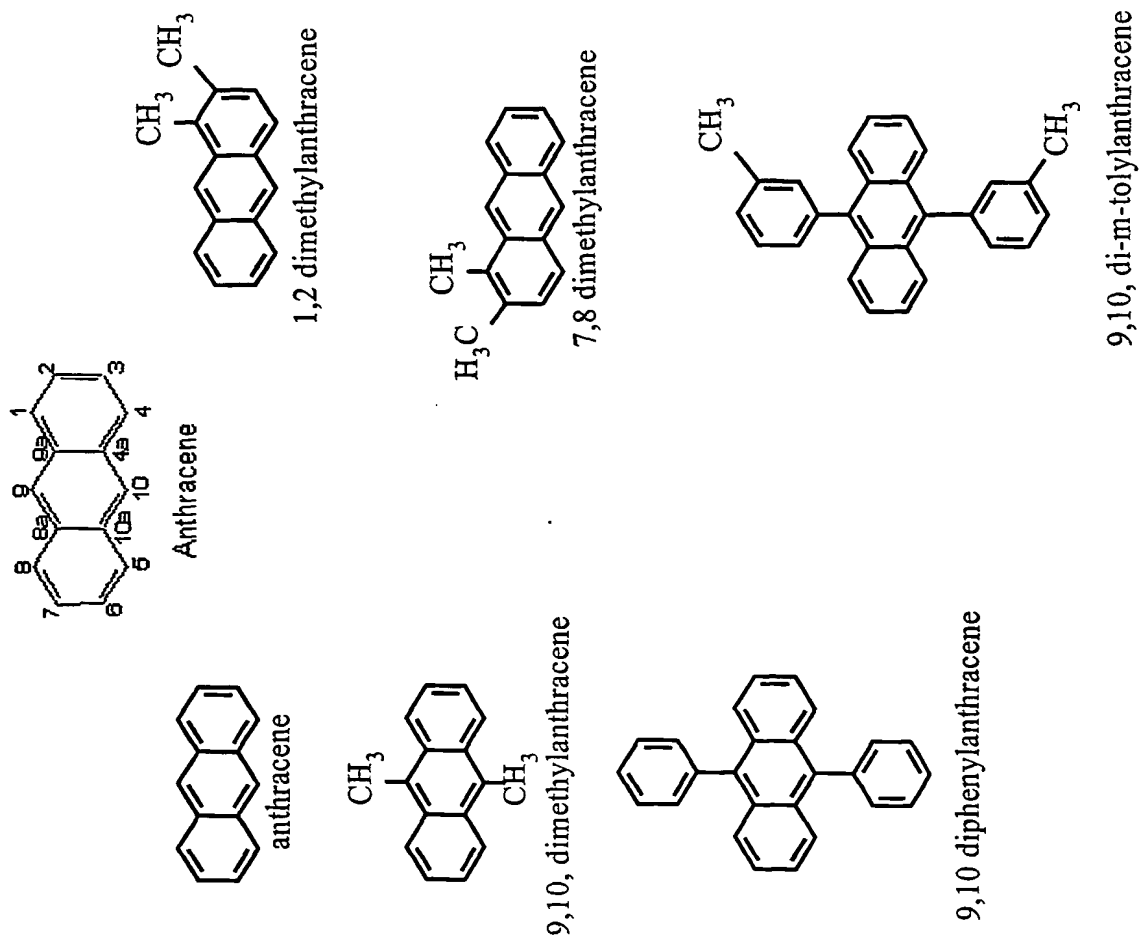


Figure 7. Binary vectors carrying the in-frame (IF) or out-of-frame (OF) version of the β -glucuronidase (GUS) gene. A) IF-GUS and OF-GUS genes, including the nopaline synthase terminator (NOS T.), were obtained by PCR using the NOS-term. and uidA-ATG poly A-OF/IF primers. PCR products were cloned in the TA cloning vector pCR2.1 and sequenced. B) IF-GUS or OF-GUS genes were then cloned into the EcoR I and BamH I sites of the pBI-121 vector, which carries the Cauliflower Mosaic Virus S35 promoter (S35 prom.). C) The cassette containing the S35 promoter, the IF/OF-GUS gene, and the NOS T. was subsequently cloned into the EcoR I and Hind III sites of the pGPTV-HPT binary vector, to generate pCMV-IF-GUS-HPT or pCMV-OF-GUS-HPT constructs. HPT, hygromycin phosphotransferase gene. L, T-DNA left border. R, T-DNA right border. Solid arrows indicate direction of transcription. Dotted arrows indicate subcloning sites. Ag7, gene 7 terminator.

Figure 8. Examples of chemical inhibitors of mismatch repair. 9, 10 dimethyl anthracene and anthracene analogs are effective chemical inhibitors of mismatch repair *in vivo*.



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Sass, Philip M

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 Ser His Cys Ser Ser Glu Tyr Ala Ala Ser Ser Pro Gly Asp Arg Gly
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 Ser Gln Glu His Val Asp Ser Gln Glu Lys Ala Pro Glu Thr Asp Asp
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 Ser Phe Ser Asp Val Asp Cys His Ser Asn Gln Glu Asp Thr Gly Cys
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Lys	Arg	Phe	Lys	Lys	Glu	Glu	Ile	Leu	Ser	Ser	Ser	Asp	Ile	Cys	Gln	580	585	590	
Lys	Leu	Val	Asn	Thr	Gln	Asp	Met	Ser	Ala	Ser	Gln	Val	Asp	Val	Ala	595	600	605	
Val	Lys	Ile	Asn	Lys	Lys	Val	Val	Pro	Leu	Asp	Phe	Ser	Met	Ser	Ser	610	615	620	
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Gly	Glu	Gln	Asn	Tyr	Arg	Lys	Phe	Arg	Ala	Lys	Ile	Cys	Pro	Gly	Glu	645	650	655	
Asn	Gln	Ala	Ala	Glu	Asp	Glu	Leu	Arg	Lys	Glu	Ile	Ser	Lys	Thr	Met	660	665	670	
Phe	Ala	Glu	Met	Glu	Ile	Ile	Gly	Gln	Phe	Asn	Leu	Gly	Phe	Ile	Ile	675	680	685	
Thr	Lys	Leu	Asn	Glu	Asp	Ile	Phe	Ile	Val	Asp	Gln	His	Ala	Thr	Asp	690	695	700	
Glu	Lys	Tyr	Asn	Phe	Glu	Met	Leu	Gln	Gln	His	Thr	Val	Leu	Gln	Gly	705	710	715	720
Gln	Arg	Leu	Ile	Ala	Pro	Gln	Thr	Leu	Asn	Leu	Thr	Ala	Val	Asn	Glu	725	730	735	
Ala	Val	Leu	Ile	Glu	Asn	Leu	Glu	Ile	Phe	Arg	Lys	Asn	Gly	Phe	Asp	740	745	750	
Phe	Val	Ile	Asp	Glu	Asn	Ala	Pro	Val	Thr	Glu	Arg	Ala	Lys	Leu	Ile	755	760	765	
Ser	Leu	Pro	Thr	Ser	Lys	Asn	Trp	Thr	Phe	Gly	Pro	Gln	Asp	Val	Asp	770	775	780	
Glu	Leu	Ile	Phe	Met	Leu	Ser	Asp	Ser	Pro	Gly	Val	Met	Cys	Arg	Pro	785	790	795	800
Ser	Arg	Val	Lys	Gln	Met	Phe	Ala	Ser	Arg	Ala	Cys	Arg	Lys	Ser	Val	805	810	815	
Met	Ile	Gly	Thr	Ala	Leu	Asn	Thr	Ser	Glu	Met	Lys	Lys	Leu	Ile	Thr	820	825	830	

His Met Gly Glu Met Asp His Pro Trp Asn Cys Pro His Gly Arg Pro
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Thr Met Arg His Ile Ala Asn Leu Gly Val Ile Ser Gln Asn
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<210> 17

<211> 2771

<212> DNA

<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 17

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<210> 18

<211> 932

<212> PRT

<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 18

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Leu Asp Ala Gly Ala Thr Ser Val Asp Val Lys Leu Glu Asn Tyr Gly
      35              40              45

Phe Asp Lys Ile Glu Val Arg Asp Asn Gly Glu Gly Ile Lys Ala Val
      50              55              60

Asp Ala Pro Val Met Ala Met Lys Tyr Tyr Thr Ser Lys Ile Asn Ser
      65              70              75              80

His Glu Asp Leu Glu Asn Leu Thr Thr Tyr Gly Phe Arg Gly Glu Ala
      85              90              95

Leu Gly Ser Ile Cys Cys Ile Ala Glu Val Leu Ile Thr Thr Arg Thr
      100              105              110

Ala Ala Asp Asn Phe Ser Thr Gln Tyr Val Leu Asp Gly Ser Gly His
      115              120              125

Ile Leu Ser Gln Lys Pro Ser His Leu Gly Gln Gly Thr Thr Val Thr
      130              135              140

Ala Leu Arg Leu Phe Lys Asn Leu Pro Val Arg Lys Gln Phe Tyr Ser

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 Asn Lys Ala Val Ile Trp Gln Lys Ser Arg Val Ser Asp His Lys Met
 195 200 205
 Ala Leu Met Ser Val Leu Gly Thr Ala Val Met Asn Asn Met Glu Ser
 210 215 220
 Phe Gln Tyr His Ser Glu Glu Ser Gln Ile Tyr Leu Ser Gly Phe Leu
 225 230 235 240
 Pro Lys Cys Asp Ala Asp His Ser Phe Thr Ser Leu Ser Thr Pro Glu
 245 250 255
 Arg Ser Phe Ile Phe Ile Asn Ser Arg Pro Val His Gln Lys Asp Ile
 260 265 270
 Leu Lys Leu Ile Arg His His Tyr Asn Leu Lys Cys Leu Lys Glu Ser
 275 280 285
 Thr Arg Leu Tyr Pro Val Phe Phe Leu Lys Ile Asp Val Pro Thr Ala
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 Asn Lys Glu Ser Val Leu Ile Ala Leu Glu Asn Leu Met Thr Thr Cys
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 Tyr Gly Pro Leu Pro Ser Thr Asn Ser Tyr Glu Asn Asn Lys Thr Asp
 340 345 350
 Val Ser Ala Ala Asp Ile Val Leu Ser Lys Thr Ala Glu Thr Asp Val
 355 360 365
 Leu Phe Asn Lys Val Glu Ser Ser Gly Lys Asn Tyr Ser Asn Val Asp
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 Lys Asn Thr Asp Asp Cys Leu Asn His Gln Ile Ser Ile Gly Asp Phe

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Gly Tyr Gly His Cys Ser Ser Glu Ile Ser Asn Ile Asp Lys Asn Thr	420		425		430
Lys Asn Ala Phe Gln Asp Ile Ser Met Ser Asn Val Ser Trp Glu Asn	435		440		445
Ser Gln Thr Glu Tyr Ser Lys Thr Cys Phe Ile Ser Ser Val Lys His	450		455		460
Thr Gln Ser Glu Asn Gly Asn Lys Asp His Ile Asp Glu Ser Gly Glu	465		470		475
Asn Glu Glu Glu Ala Gly Leu Glu Asn Ser Ser Glu Ile Ser Ala Asp	485		490		495
Glu Trp Ser Arg Gly Asn Ile Leu Lys Asn Ser Val Gly Glu Asn Ile	500		505		510
Glu Pro Val Lys Ile Leu Val Pro Glu Lys Ser Leu Pro Cys Lys Val	515		520		525
Ser Asn Asn Asn Tyr Pro Ile Pro Glu Gln Met Asn Leu Asn Glu Asp	530		535		540
Ser Cys Asn Lys Lys Ser Asn Val Ile Asp Asn Lys Ser Gly Lys Val	545		550		555
Thr Ala Tyr Asp Leu Leu Ser Asn Arg Val Ile Lys Lys Pro Met Ser	565		570		575
Ala Ser Ala Leu Phe Val Gln Asp His Arg Pro Gln Phe Leu Ile Glu	580		585		590
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Trp Lys Thr Leu Ser Glu Glu Glu Lys Leu Lys Tyr Glu Glu Lys Ala	610		615		620
Thr Lys Asp Leu Glu Arg Tyr Asn Ser Gln Met Lys Arg Ala Ile Glu	625		630		635
Gln Glu Ser Gln Met Ser Leu Lys Asp Gly Arg Lys Lys Ile Lys Pro	645		650		655
Thr Ser Ala Trp Asn Leu Ala Gln Lys His Lys Leu Lys Thr Ser Leu					

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Arg Arg Ser Gln Asn Ile Lys Met Val Gln Ile Pro Phe Ser Met Lys		
690	695	700
Asn Leu Lys Ile Asn Phe Lys Lys Gln Asn Lys Val Asp Leu Glu Glu		
705	710	715
		720
Lys Asp Glu Pro Cys Leu Ile His Asn Leu Arg Phe Pro Asp Ala Trp		
	725	730
		735
Leu Met Thr Ser Lys Thr Glu Val Met Leu Leu Asn Pro Tyr Arg Val		
740	745	750
Glu Glu Ala Leu Leu Phe Lys Arg Leu Leu Glu Asn His Lys Leu Pro		
755	760	765
Ala Glu Pro Leu Glu Lys Pro Ile Met Leu Thr Glu Ser Leu Phe Asn		
770	775	780
Gly Ser His Tyr Leu Asp Val Leu Tyr Lys Met Thr Ala Asp Asp Gln		
785	790	795
		800
Arg Tyr Ser Gly Ser Thr Tyr Leu Ser Asp Pro Arg Leu Thr Ala Asn		
	805	810
		815
Gly Phe Lys Ile Lys Leu Ile Pro Gly Val Ser Ile Thr Glu Asn Tyr		
820	825	830
Leu Glu Ile Glu Gly Met Ala Asn Cys Leu Pro Phe Tyr Gly Val Ala		
835	840	845
Asp Leu Lys Glu Ile Leu Asn Ala Ile Leu Asn Arg Asn Ala Lys Glu		
850	855	860
Val Tyr Glu Cys Arg Pro Arg Lys Val Ile Ser Tyr Leu Glu Gly Glu		
865	870	875
		880
Ala Val Arg Leu Ser Arg Gln Leu Pro Met Tyr Leu Ser Lys Glu Asp		
	885	890
		895
Ile Gln Asp Ile Ile Tyr Arg Met Lys His Gln Phe Gly Asn Glu Ile		
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Lys Glu Cys Val His Gly Arg Pro Phe Phe His His Leu Thr Tyr Leu		

915

920

925

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<210> 19

<211> 3063

<212> DNA

<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 19

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<210> 20

<211> 934

<212> PRT

<213> Homo sapiens

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Thr Val Arg Leu Phe Asp Arg Gly Asp Phe Tyr Thr Ala His Gly Glu
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Asp Ala Leu Leu Ala Ala Arg Glu Val Phe Lys Thr Gln Gly Val Ile
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Lys Tyr Met Gly Pro Ala Gly Ala Lys Asn Leu Gln Ser Val Val Leu
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Ser Lys Met Asn Phe Glu Ser Phe Val Lys Asp Leu Leu Leu Val Arg
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Gln Tyr Arg Val Glu Val Tyr Lys Asn Arg Ala Gly Asn Lys Ala Ser
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Lys Glu Asn Asp Trp Tyr Leu Ala Tyr Lys Ala Ser Pro Gly Asn Leu
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 Val Gly Val Gly Tyr Val Asp Ser Ile Gln Arg Lys Leu Gly Leu Cys
 165 170 175
 Glu Phe Pro Asp Asn Asp Gln Phe Ser Asn Leu Glu Ala Leu Leu Ile
 180 185 190
 Gln Ile Gly Pro Lys Glu Cys Val Leu Pro Gly Gly Glu Thr Ala Gly
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 Asp Met Gly Lys Leu Arg Gln Ile Ile Gln Arg Gly Gly Ile Leu Ile
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 260 265 270
 Val Ile Lys Phe Leu Glu Leu Leu Ser Asp Asp Ser Asn Phe Gly Gln
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 Lys Asn Arg Ile Glu Glu Arg Leu Asn Leu Val Glu Ala Phe Val Glu
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 370 375 380

Pro Asp Leu Asn Arg Leu Ala Lys Lys Phe Gln Arg Gln Ala Ala Asn
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 465 470 475 480
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 Leu Asp Ser Ser Ala Gln Phe Gly Tyr Tyr Phe Arg Val Thr Cys Lys
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 545 550 555 560
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 565 570 575
 Ile Val Lys Glu Ile Val Asn Ile Ser Ser Gly Tyr Val Glu Pro Met
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 Ala His Val Ser Asn Gly Ala Pro Val Pro Tyr Val Arg Pro Ala Ile
 610 615 620
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Cys Val Glu Val Gln Asp Glu Ile Ala Phe Ile Pro Asn Asp Val Tyr
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 Phe Glu Lys Asp Lys Gln Met Phe His Ile Ile Thr Gly Pro Asn Met
 660 665 670
 Gly Gly Lys Ser Thr Tyr Ile Arg Gln Thr Gly Val Ile Val Leu Met
 675 680 685
 Ala Gln Ile Gly Cys Phe Val Pro Cys Glu Ser Ala Glu Val Ser Ile
 690 695 700
 Val Asp Cys Ile Leu Ala Arg Val Gly Ala Gly Asp Ser Gln Leu Lys
 705 710 715 720
 Gly Val Ser Thr Phe Met Ala Glu Met Leu Glu Thr Ala Ser Ile Leu
 725 730 735
 Arg Ser Ala Thr Lys Asp Ser Leu Ile Ile Ile Asp Glu Leu Gly Arg
 740 745 750
 Gly Thr Ser Thr Tyr Asp Gly Phe Gly Leu Ala Trp Ala Ile Ser Glu
 755 760 765
 Tyr Ile Ala Thr Lys Ile Gly Ala Phe Cys Met Phe Ala Thr His Phe
 770 775 780
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 785 790 795 800
 His Val Thr Ala Leu Thr Thr Glu Glu Thr Leu Thr Met Leu Tyr Gln
 805 810 815
 Val Lys Lys Gly Val Cys Asp Gln Ser Phe Gly Ile His Val Ala Glu
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 Leu Ala Asn Phe Pro Lys His Val Ile Glu Cys Ala Lys Gln Lys Ala
 835 840 845
 Leu Glu Leu Glu Glu Phe Gln Tyr Ile Gly Glu Ser Gln Gly Tyr Asp
 850 855 860
 Ile Met Glu Pro Ala Ala Lys Lys Cys Tyr Leu Glu Arg Glu Gln Gly
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 Glu Lys Ile Ile Gln Glu Phe Leu Ser Lys Val Lys Gln Met Pro Phe
 885 890 895

Thr Glu Met Ser Glu Glu Asn Ile Thr Ile Lys Leu Lys Gln Leu Lys
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<210> 21

<211> 3145

<212> DNA

<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 21

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<210> 22

<211> 756

<212> PRT

<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 22

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Asn Arg Ile Ala Ala Gly Glu Val Ile Gln Arg Pro Ala Asn Ala Ile
      20              25              30

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Lys Glu Met Ile Glu Asn Cys Leu Asp Ala Lys Ser Thr Ser Ile Gln
      35              40              45

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Val Ile Val Lys Glu Gly Gly Leu Lys Leu Ile Gln Ile Gln Asp Asn
      50              55              60

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Gly Thr Gly Ile Arg Lys Glu Asp Leu Asp Ile Val Cys Glu Arg Phe
      65              70              75              80

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Thr Thr Ser Lys Leu Gln Ser Phe Glu Asp Leu Ala Ser Ile Ser Thr
      85              90              95

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Tyr Gly Phe Arg Gly Glu Ala Leu Ala Ser Ile Ser His Val Ala His

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Ser Tyr Ser Asp Gly Lys Leu Lys Ala Pro Pro Lys Pro Cys Ala Gly		
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Asn Gln Gly Thr Gln Ile Thr Val Glu Asp Leu Phe Tyr Asn Ile Ala		
145	150	155
		160
Thr Arg Arg Lys Ala Leu Lys Asn Pro Ser Glu Glu Tyr Gly Lys Ile		
165	170	175
Leu Glu Val Val Gly Arg Tyr Ser Val His Asn Ala Gly Ile Ser Phe		
180	185	190
Ser Val Lys Lys Gln Gly Glu Thr Val Ala Asp Val Arg Thr Leu Pro		
195	200	205
Asn Ala Ser Thr Val Asp Asn Ile Arg Ser Ile Phe Gly Asn Ala Val		
210	215	220
Ser Arg Glu Leu Ile Glu Ile Gly Cys Glu Asp Lys Thr Leu Ala Phe		
225	230	235
		240
Lys Met Asn Gly Tyr Ile Ser Asn Ala Asn Tyr Ser Val Lys Lys Cys		
245	250	255
Ile Phe Leu Leu Phe Ile Asn His Arg Leu Val Glu Ser Thr Ser Leu		
260	265	270
Arg Lys Ala Ile Glu Thr Val Tyr Ala Ala Tyr Leu Pro Lys Asn Thr		
275	280	285
His Pro Phe Leu Tyr Leu Ser Leu Glu Ile Ser Pro Gln Asn Val Asp		
290	295	300
Val Asn Val His Pro Thr Lys His Glu Val His Phe Leu His Glu Glu		
305	310	315
		320
Ser Ile Leu Glu Arg Val Gln Gln His Ile Glu Ser Lys Leu Leu Gly		
325	330	335
Ser Asn Ser Ser Arg Met Tyr Phe Thr Gln Thr Leu Leu Pro Gly Leu		
340	345	350
Ala Gly Pro Ser Gly Glu Met Val Lys Ser Thr Thr Ser Leu Thr Ser		

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Ser Ser Thr Ser Gly Ser Ser Asp Lys Val Tyr Ala His Gln Met Val		
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Arg Thr Asp Ser Arg Glu Gln Lys Leu Asp Ala Phe Leu Gln Pro Leu		
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Ser Lys Pro Leu Ser Ser Gln Pro Gln Ala Ile Val Thr Glu Asp Lys		
405	410	415
Thr Asp Ile Ser Ser Gly Arg Ala Arg Gln Gln Asp Glu Glu Met Leu		
420	425	430
Glu Leu Pro Ala Pro Ala Glu Val Ala Ala Lys Asn Gln Ser Leu Glu		
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Gly Asp Thr Thr Lys Gly Thr Ser Glu Met Ser Glu Lys Arg Gly Pro		
450	455	460
Thr Ser Ser Asn Pro Arg Lys Arg His Arg Glu Asp Ser Asp Val Glu		
465	470	475
Met Val Glu Asp Asp Ser Arg Lys Glu Met Thr Ala Ala Cys Thr Pro		
485	490	495
Arg Arg Arg Ile Ile Asn Leu Thr Ser Val Leu Ser Leu Gln Glu Glu		
500	505	510
Ile Asn Glu Gln Gly His Glu Val Leu Arg Glu Met Leu His Asn His		
515	520	525
Ser Phe Val Gly Cys Val Asn Pro Gln Trp Ala Leu Ala Gln His Gln		
530	535	540
Thr Lys Leu Tyr Leu Leu Asn Thr Thr Lys Leu Ser Glu Glu Leu Phe		
545	550	555
Tyr Gln Ile Leu Ile Tyr Asp Phe Ala Asn Phe Gly Val Leu Arg Leu		
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Ser Glu Pro Ala Pro Leu Phe Asp Leu Ala Met Leu Ala Leu Asp Ser		
580	585	590
Pro Glu Ser Gly Trp Thr Glu Glu Asp Gly Pro Lys Glu Gly Leu Ala		
595	600	605
Glu Tyr Ile Val Glu Phe Leu Lys Lys Lys Ala Glu Met Leu Ala Asp		

610 615 620
 Tyr Phe Ser Leu Glu Ile Asp Glu Glu Gly Asn Leu Ile Gly Leu Pro
 625 630 635 640
 Leu Leu Ile Asp Asn Tyr Val Pro Pro Leu Glu Gly Leu Pro Ile Phe
 645 650 655
 Ile Leu Arg Leu Ala Thr Glu Val Asn Trp Asp Glu Glu Lys Glu Cys
 660 665 670
 Phe Glu Ser Leu Ser Lys Glu Cys Ala Met Phe Tyr Ser Ile Arg Lys
 675 680 685
 Gln Tyr Ile Ser Glu Glu Ser Thr Leu Ser Gly Gln Gln Ser Glu Val
 690 695 700
 Pro Gly Ser Ile Pro Asn Ser Trp Lys Trp Thr Val Glu His Ile Val
 705 710 715 720
 Tyr Lys Ala Leu Arg Ser His Ile Leu Pro Pro Lys His Phe Thr Glu
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 Asp Gly Asn Ile Leu Gln Leu Ala Asn Leu Pro Asp Leu Tyr Lys Val
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 Phe Glu Arg Cys
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<210> 23

<211> 2484

<212> DNA

<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 23

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 gacaatatct gctccatctt tggaaatgct gttagtcgag aactgataga aattggatgt 720

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<210> 24

<211> 133

<212> PRT

<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 24

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Ile Ile Thr Ser Val Val Ser Val Val Lys Glu Leu Ile Glu Asn Ser

20

25

30

Leu Asp Ala Gly Ala Thr Ser Val Asp Val Lys Leu Glu Asn Tyr Gly

35

40

45

Phe Asp Lys Ile Glu Val Arg Asp Asn Gly Glu Gly Ile Lys Ala Val

50

55

60

Asp Ala Pro Val Met Ala Met Lys Tyr Tyr Thr Ser Lys Ile Asn Ser
 65 70 75 80

His Glu Asp Leu Glu Asn Leu Thr Thr Tyr Gly Phe Arg Gly Glu Ala
 85 90 95

Leu Gly Ser Ile Cys Cys Ile Ala Glu Val Leu Ile Thr Thr Arg Thr
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Ala Ala Asp Asn Phe Ser Thr Gln Tyr Val Leu Asp Gly Ser Gly His
 115 120 125

Ile Leu Ser Gln Lys
 130

<210> 25

<211> 426

<212> DNA

<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 25

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 caagagtttg ccgacctaac tcagggttgaa acttttggct ttcgggggga agctctgagc 360
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<210> 26

<211> 1360

<212> PRT

<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 26

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 20 25 30

Arg Ala Ala Ala Ala Pro Gly Ala Ser Pro Ser Pro Gly Gly Asp Ala
 35 40 45

29

Ala Trp Ser Glu Ala Gly Pro Gly Pro Arg Pro Leu Ala Arg Ser Ala
 50 55 60

Ser Pro Pro Lys Ala Lys Asn Leu Asn Gly Gly Leu Arg Arg Ser Val
 65 70 75 80

Ala Pro Ala Ala Pro Thr Ser Cys Asp Phe Ser Pro Gly Asp Leu Val
 85 90 95

Trp Ala Lys Met Glu Gly Tyr Pro Trp Trp Pro Cys Leu Val Tyr Asn
 100 105 110

His Pro Phe Asp Gly Thr Phe Ile Arg Glu Lys Gly Lys Ser Val Arg
 115 120 125

Val His Val Gln Phe Phe Asp Asp Ser Pro Thr Arg Gly Trp Val Ser
 130 135 140

Lys Arg Leu Leu Lys Pro Tyr Thr Gly Ser Lys Ser Lys Glu Ala Gln
 145 150 155 160

Lys Gly Gly His Phe Tyr Ser Ala Lys Pro Glu Ile Leu Arg Ala Met
 165 170 175

Gln Arg Ala Asp Glu Ala Leu Asn Lys Asp Lys Ile Lys Arg Leu Glu
 180 185 190

Leu Ala Val Cys Asp Glu Pro Ser Glu Pro Glu Glu Glu Glu Met
 195 200 205

Glu Val Gly Thr Thr Tyr Val Thr Asp Lys Ser Glu Glu Asp Asn Glu
 210 215 220

Ile Glu Ser Glu Glu Glu Val Gln Pro Lys Thr Gln Gly Ser Arg Arg
 225 230 235 240

Ser Ser Arg Gln Ile Lys Lys Arg Arg Val Ile Ser Asp Ser Glu Ser
 245 250 255

Asp Ile Gly Gly Ser Asp Val Glu Phe Lys Pro Asp Thr Lys Glu Glu
 260 265 270

Gly Ser Ser Asp Glu Ile Ser Ser Gly Val Gly Asp Ser Glu Ser Glu
 275 280 285

Gly Leu Asn Ser Pro Val Lys Val Ala Arg Lys Arg Lys Arg Met Val
 290 295 300

Thr Gly Asn Gly Ser Leu Lys Arg Lys Ser Ser Arg Lys Glu Thr Pro
 305 310 315 320
 Ser Ala Thr Lys Gln Ala Thr Ser Ile Ser Ser Glu Thr Lys Asn Thr
 325 330 335
 Leu Arg Ala Phe Ser Ala Pro Gln Asn Ser Glu Ser Gln Ala His Val
 340 345 350
 Ser Gly Gly Gly Asp Asp Ser Ser Arg Pro Thr Val Trp Tyr His Glu
 355 360 365
 Thr Leu Glu Trp Leu Lys Glu Glu Lys Arg Arg Asp Glu His Arg Arg
 370 375 380
 Arg Pro Asp His Pro Asp Phe Asp Ala Ser Thr Leu Tyr Val Pro Glu
 385 390 395 400
 Asp Phe Leu Asn Ser Cys Thr Pro Gly Met Arg Lys Trp Trp Gln Ile
 405 410 415
 Lys Ser Gln Asn Phe Asp Leu Val Ile Cys Tyr Lys Val Gly Lys Phe
 420 425 430
 Tyr Glu Leu Tyr His Met Asp Ala Leu Ile Gly Val Ser Glu Leu Gly
 435 440 445
 Leu Val Phe Met Lys Gly Asn Trp Ala His Ser Gly Phe Pro Glu Ile
 450 455 460
 Ala Phe Gly Arg Tyr Ser Asp Ser Leu Val Gln Lys Gly Tyr Lys Val
 465 470 475 480
 Ala Arg Val Glu Gln Thr Glu Thr Pro Glu Met Met Glu Ala Arg Cys
 485 490 495
 Arg Lys Met Ala His Ile Ser Lys Tyr Asp Arg Val Val Arg Arg Glu
 500 505 510
 Ile Cys Arg Ile Ile Thr Lys Gly Thr Gln Thr Tyr Ser Val Leu Glu
 515 520 525
 Gly Asp Pro Ser Glu Asn Tyr Ser Lys Tyr Leu Leu Ser Leu Lys Glu
 530 535 540
 Lys Glu Glu Asp Ser Ser Gly His Thr Arg Ala Tyr Gly Val Cys Phe
 545 550 555 560

Val Asp Thr Ser Leu Gly Lys Phe Phe Ile Gly Gln Phe Ser Asp Asp
 565 570 575
 Arg His Cys Ser Arg Phe Arg Thr Leu Val Ala His Tyr Pro Pro Val
 580 585 590
 Gln Val Leu Phe Glu Lys Gly Asn Leu Ser Lys Glu Thr Lys Thr Ile
 595 600 605
 Leu Lys Ser Ser Leu Ser Cys Ser Leu Gln Glu Gly Leu Ile Pro Gly
 610 615 620
 Ser Gln Phe Trp Asp Ala Ser Lys Thr Leu Arg Thr Leu Leu Glu Glu
 625 630 635 640
 Glu Tyr Phe Arg Glu Lys Leu Ser Asp Gly Ile Gly Val Met Leu Pro
 645 650 655
 Gln Val Leu Lys Gly Met Thr Ser Glu Ser Asp Ser Ile Gly Leu Thr
 660 665 670
 Pro Gly Glu Lys Ser Glu Leu Ala Leu Ser Ala Leu Gly Gly Cys Val
 675 680 685
 Phe Tyr Leu Lys Lys Cys Leu Ile Asp Gln Glu Leu Leu Ser Met Ala
 690 695 700
 Asn Phe Glu Glu Tyr Ile Pro Leu Asp Ser Asp Thr Val Ser Thr Thr
 705 710 715 720
 Arg Ser Gly Ala Ile Phe Thr Lys Ala Tyr Gln Arg Met Val Leu Asp
 725 730 735
 Ala Val Thr Leu Asn Asn Leu Glu Ile Phe Leu Asn Gly Thr Asn Gly
 740 745 750
 Ser Thr Glu Gly Thr Leu Leu Glu Arg Val Asp Thr Cys His Thr Pro
 755 760 765
 Phe Gly Lys Arg Leu Leu Lys Gln Trp Leu Cys Ala Pro Leu Cys Asn
 770 775 780
 His Tyr Ala Ile Asn Asp Arg Leu Asp Ala Ile Glu Asp Leu Met Val
 785 790 795 800
 Val Pro Asp Lys Ile Ser Glu Val Val Glu Leu Leu Lys Lys Leu Pro
 805 810 815

Asp Leu Glu Arg Leu Leu Ser Lys Ile His Asn Val Gly Ser Pro Leu
 820 825 830
 Lys Ser Gln Asn His Pro Asp Ser Arg Ala Ile Met Tyr Glu Glu Thr
 835 840 845
 Thr Tyr Ser Lys Lys Lys Ile Ile Asp Phe Leu Ser Ala Leu Glu Gly
 850 855 860
 Phe Lys Val Met Cys Lys Ile Ile Gly Ile Met Glu Glu Val Ala Asp
 865 870 875 880
 Gly Phe Lys Ser Lys Ile Leu Lys Gln Val Ile Ser Leu Gln Thr Lys
 885 890 895
 Asn Pro Glu Gly Arg Phe Pro Asp Leu Thr Val Glu Leu Asn Arg Trp
 900 905 910
 Asp Thr Ala Phe Asp His Glu Lys Ala Arg Lys Thr Gly Leu Ile Thr
 915 920 925
 Pro Lys Ala Gly Phe Asp Ser Asp Tyr Asp Gln Ala Leu Ala Asp Ile
 930 935 940
 Arg Glu Asn Glu Gln Ser Leu Leu Glu Tyr Leu Glu Lys Gln Arg Asn
 945 950 955 960
 Arg Ile Gly Cys Arg Thr Ile Val Tyr Trp Gly Ile Gly Arg Asn Arg
 965 970 975
 Tyr Gln Leu Glu Ile Pro Glu Asn Phe Thr Thr Arg Asn Leu Pro Glu
 980 985 990
 Glu Tyr Glu Leu Lys Ser Thr Lys Lys Gly Cys Lys Arg Tyr Trp Thr
 995 1000 1005
 Lys Thr Ile Glu Lys Lys Leu Ala Asn Leu Ile Asn Ala Glu Glu Arg
 1010 1015 1020
 Arg Asp Val Ser Leu Lys Asp Cys Met Arg Arg Leu Phe Tyr Asn Phe
 1025 1030 1035 1040
 Asp Lys Asn Tyr Lys Asp Trp Gln Ser Ala Val Glu Cys Ile Ala Val
 1045 1050 1055
 Leu Asp Val Leu Leu Cys Leu Ala Asn Tyr Ser Arg Gly Gly Asp Gly
 1060 1065 1070

Pro Met Cys Arg Pro Val Ile Leu Leu Pro Glu Asp Thr Pro Pro Phe
 1075 1080 1085

Leu Glu Leu Lys Gly Ser Arg His Pro Cys Ile Thr Lys Thr Phe Phe
 1090 1095 1100

Gly Asp Asp Phe Ile Pro Asn Asp Ile Leu Ile Gly Cys Glu Glu Glu
 1105 1110 1115 1120

Glu Gln Glu Asn Gly Lys Ala Tyr Cys Val Leu Val Thr Gly Pro Asn
 1125 1130 1135

Met Gly Gly Lys Ser Thr Leu Met Arg Gln Ala Gly Leu Leu Ala Val
 1140 1145 1150

Met Ala Gln Met Gly Cys Tyr Val Pro Ala Glu Val Cys Arg Leu Thr
 1155 1160 1165

Pro Ile Asp Arg Val Phe Thr Arg Leu Gly Ala Ser Asp Arg Ile Met
 1170 1175 1180

Ser Gly Glu Ser Thr Phe Phe Val Glu Leu Ser Glu Thr Ala Ser Ile
 1185 1190 1195 1200

Leu Met His Ala Thr Ala His Ser Leu Val Leu Val Asp Glu Leu Gly
 1205 1210 1215

Arg Gly Thr Ala Thr Phe Asp Gly Thr Ala Ile Ala Asn Ala Val Val
 1220 1225 1230

Lys Glu Leu Ala Glu Thr Ile Lys Cys Arg Thr Leu Phe Ser Thr His
 1235 1240 1245

Tyr His Ser Leu Val Glu Asp Tyr Ser Gln Asn Val Ala Val Arg Leu
 1250 1255 1260

Gly His Met Ala Cys Met Val Glu Asn Glu Cys Glu Asp Pro Ser Gln
 1265 1270 1275 1280

Glu Thr Ile Thr Phe Leu Tyr Lys Phe Ile Lys Gly Ala Cys Pro Lys
 1285 1290 1295

Ser Tyr Gly Phe Asn Ala Ala Arg Leu Ala Asn Leu Pro Glu Glu Val
 1300 1305 1310

Ile Gln Lys Gly His Arg Lys Ala Arg Glu Phe Glu Lys Met Asn Gln
 1315 1320 1325

Ser Leu Arg Leu Phe Arg Glu Val Cys Leu Ala Ser Glu Arg Ser Thr
 1330 1335 1340

Val Asp Ala Glu Ala Val His Lys Leu Leu Thr Leu Ile Lys Glu Leu
 1345 1350 1355 1360

<210> 27

<211> 4244

<212> DNA

<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 27

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US01/00934

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC(7) : A01H 1/06; A61K 31/7076, 31/7088; C12N 1/00, 5/00; C12Q 1/68
 US CL : 435/6, 375, 410; 514/44; 536/24.5; 800/13, 276, 286, 295

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

U.S. : 435/6, 375, 410; 514/44; 536/24.5; 800/13, 276, 286, 295

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)
 USPAT, JPABS, EPABS, DWPI, BIOSIS, CAPLUS, MEDLINE

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
T	US 6,191,268 B1 (LISKAY et al.) 20 February 2001.	1-71
X	US 6,146,894 A (NICOLAIDES et al.) 14 November 2000, see entire document.	23-53, 71
X	US 5,907,079 A (MAK et al.) 25 May 1999, see entire document.	1, 17-20, 23-27, 29, 31-34, 36-39
X	WO 99/19492 A2 (RHONE-POULENC AGRO) 22 April 1999, see pages 4-33.	1, 17-19, 23, 24, 26, 29-31, 41-49, 52
X	YU et al. Adriamycin Induces Large Deletions in a Major Type of Mutation in CHO Cells. Mutation Research. November 1994, Vol. 325, Nos. 2-3, pages 91-98, see entire document.	1-3, 20, 23, 24, 26-29, 31, 56, 57
X	CHAKRAVARTI et al. Relating Aromatic Hydrocarbon-Induced DNA Adducts and c-H-ras Mutations in Mouse Skin papillomas: the Role of Apurinic Sites. Proceedings of the national Academy of Sciences, USA. October 1995, Vol. 92, Pages 10422-10426. See entire document including Figure 1.	1-6, 23, 24, 26-29, 31-34 36-38, 56-60
X	DRUMMOND et al. Cisplatin and Adriamycin Resistance are Associated with MutLa and Mismatch Repair Deficiency in an Ovarian Cell line. The Journal of Biological Chemistry. 16 August 1996, Vol. 271, No. 33, pages 19645-19648, see entire document.	1-3, 20, 21, 23, 24, 26-29, 31, 49, 51, 56, 57, 71



Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.



See patent family annex.

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document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance

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document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)

"O"

document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means

"P"

document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

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"X"

document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

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document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art

"&"

document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

16 March 2001 (16.03.2001)

Date of mailing of the international search report

26 APR 2001

Name and mailing address of the ISA/US

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
 Box PCT
 Washington, D.C. 20231

Facsimile No. (703)305-3230

Authorized officer

Thomas Larson

Telephone No. (703) 308-0196

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US01/00934

C (Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	QUIAN et al. Molecular Events after Antisense inhibition of hMSH2 in a HeLa Cell Line. Mutation Research. 12 October 1998, Vol. 418, Nos. 2-3, pages 61-71, see entire document.	1, 17, 23-31

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